

A portrait of Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel, a Black woman with short black hair, wearing glasses, a black clerical cap, and a red stole over a black clerical collar. The background is a soft-focus bokeh of light circles.

Burial & Thanksgiving Service

programme for the late

Very Rev. Evelyn Efua
NICKEL

(August 1944 - April 2021)

AGED

76
YEARS

Date: Friday, 16th July 2021 **Time:** 9:00am

Venue: Bethel Methodist Church, Senya Beraku

Organist: Bro. Joseph Barnes Parry

Stewards: Bro Francis Doughan & Sis. Winnifred Baffoe

Officiating Minister: Very Rev. Samuel E. Arkaifie - Supt. Minister, Senya Beraku Circuit





Appreciation

The Entire Family of the late **Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel** Wishes to express our gratitude to everyone especially you, who have shown your greatest compassion to us in our time of grief.

God Bless You!



Officiating Ministers

- Most Rev. Paul Kwabena Boafo - Presiding Bishop, Methodist Church, Ghana
- Brother William Orleans Oduro, Esq - Lay President of Conference
- Rt. Rev. Michael Agarko Bossman - Administrative Bishop
- Rt. Rev. Paa Solomon Grant Essilfie - Bishop of Winneba Diocese
- Brother Jacob E. Eshun, Esq - Lay Chairman, Winneba Diocese
- Very Rev. Samuel K. Kankam - Supt. Minister, Kasoa Circuit
- Very Rev. Samuel E. Arkaifie - Supt. Minister, Senya Beraku Circuit

ORDER OF SERVICE

Pre-Burial Service

- Opening Hymn **MHB 113**
- Prayer
- Hymn **MHB 428**
- Filing Past the body **Selected Hymns**
- Reading of Tributes
- Covering of Coffin **MHB 914**

Burial Service

- Procession **Choir and Singing Band**
- Scriptural Sentences
- Hymn **MHB 528 CANF 528**
- Prayer
- Hymn **MHB 492 CANF 492**
- Biography & Tributes
- Hymn **MHB 500 CANF 500**
- Lesson **1st reading 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26**
2nd reading John 14:1-6, 27
- Hymn **MHB 494 CANF 494**
- Sermon & Apostles' Creed

Memorial and Thanksgiving Service

- Offertory
- Announcement
- Hymn **MHB 652 CANF 652**
- Thanksgiving and Commendation
- The Lord's Prayer
- Hymn **MHB 828 CANF 828**
- Benediction
- Dead March

At the Grave Side

- Sentences
- Hymn **MHB 976 CANF 976**
- Committal
- Prayers
- Hymn **MHB 216 CANF 216**
- Vote of Thanks
- Hymn **MHB 828 CANF 1058**
- Benediction

Biography Of The Late Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel

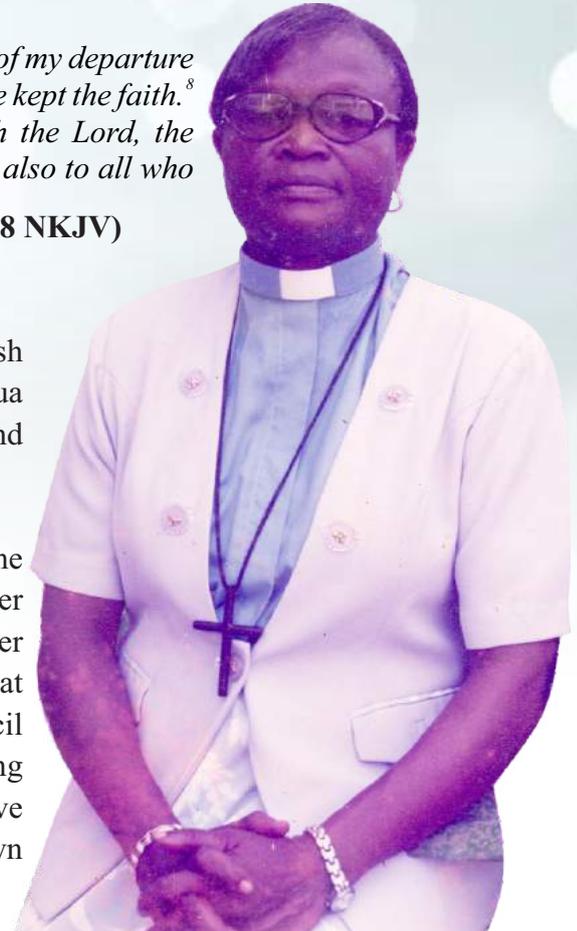
"⁶For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing."

(2 Timothy 4:6-8 NKJV)

Early Childhood And Basic Schooling

The late Very Rev Evelyn Efua Nickel was born in James Town, British Accra, on Friday, 25th August 1944, to Opanyin Nickel and Maame Ekua Atta Davis of Senya Beraku, both of blessed memory. She was born and baptized into the Methodist faith.

During Evelyn's childhood, her parents travelled to Nigeria, where she started her basic education. However, her father, Mr. Nickel, wanted her to be educated in Ghana, so she was brought back to live with her grandmother, Obaapanyin Comfort Davies (Maama Esi Pesewa) at Senya Beraku. She was enrolled in Oma School (now District Council School) in 1955. She passed the Standard Seven Middle School Leaving Certificate Examination in 1961 with distinction. She then went to live with her mother who had returned to Ghana and was living in James Town at the time.



Adult Life

Through her cousin, Frank Osuan Graham, our current Ebusuapanyin, Efua was employed at the General Post Office (P&T) in Accra as trainee telephone switchboard operator. After her training she was posted to Winneba where she lived with her uncle, Papa Kwesi Panyin Kittoe, at Mbeadze. Efua in her youthful days, was very beautiful and gorgeous.

Efua Nickel being eager to acquire knowledge enrolled with the Rapid Results College and obtained a professional certificate in Business Administration from the Royal Society of Arts. She was then employed by the Central Regional Development Corporation (CEREDEC) as an Administrative Assistant, in Cape Coast.

Desirous to acquire more academic knowledge, Evelyn Efua Nickel, enrolled as a mature student at the University of Cape Coast (UCC). She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1986. With that she secured a job at the same University, as an Assistant Registrar, in 1990. By dint of hard work, Evelyn rose to the position of Senior Assistant Registrar, at which she remained until her retirement in 2004. Her diligence and hard work earned her a two-year post-retirement contract after which she finally left the University of Cape Coast in 2006.



Passion For God's Work

Notwithstanding her heavy work schedule at UCC, she was a Local Preacher, Society Steward, Sunday School Teacher and Chorister at the Emmanuel Methodist Church at OLA Estates, in Cape Coast. Evelyn's passion to do the work of God was so intense that she became a candidate for training at the Trinity Theological Seminary, in Accra on 1st October, 2001. She was called into full time ministry as a Methodist Reverend Minister on 8th June, 2003.

Her ministerial work took her to many societies including Gethsemane Methodist Church, Ntranoa, Trinity Methodist Church, Brenu Akyinim, and Bethel Methodist Church, Komenda Dominase which was the venue for her sendoff church service in September, 2014. She settled at Kasoa after superannuating from the Methodist Church. In November, 2019, in recognition of her immense contribution towards the construction of the Manse for the Bethel Methodist Church in Senya Beraku, she was one of many Honorable Reverends invited to dedicate it.



Family And Social Life

- Her numerous pastoral duties, notwithstanding, Osofo Efua Nickel was never absent from family activities.
- As a Reverend Minister, she instituted that pouring of libation be abolished during family meetings. Since then all family meetings start and end with Christian prayers.
- On several occasions, she invited evangelists to the family house for revival and also to break perceived ancestral curses. One such evangelist is Evangelist Lawrence Tony Asubonteng.
- Difficult as it was, Osofo Efua managed to bring many family members who were not Christians to accept Christ.

Very Reverend Evelyn Efua Nickel was most charitable. She supported diverse needs of people who called on her for various needs. Her home was an open house where everyone welcomed. Her greatest joy was to see people leave her house with joy on their faces. Osofo Evelyn trusted the Lord to meet all her needs to become a blessing to many and God proved Himself faithful. She became a channel through which many students from Senya Beraku gained admission to Cape Coast University.



Call To Glory

Her health started failing in 2020. Very Reverend Evelyn Efua Nickel was called to higher service on Friday, 30th April, 2021, at exactly 1.20am. We will remember you for your generosity to both individuals and the collective family. You ran the race and played your part, you quietly bore all the pain from the ailment and made everyone believe all was well. Sister Efua, you deserve a rest from all the pain. She left behind two illustrious sons; Lawyer Ekow Ampah Korsah (Primus, Korsah & Ackah at Law) and Lawyer Gideon Enoch Abbeyquaye (Director, Directorate of Academic Affairs, UCC), one adopted daughter, Augusta Ampah Ghartey (Physician Assistant, Ghana Health Service), four grandchildren, and four adopted grandchildren. Osofo, Very Reverend, Sister Efua, Cousin Efua, Mama, Ma Evelyn, the Awo Anona Family trusts that the Lord Almighty will give you a peaceful rest.

*Now the labourer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, In Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.*

By John Ellerton (1870)

*Very Reverend Evelyn Efua Nickel, Sleep Well
'Sofa Mama Evelyn Da Yie
Osofo Efua Nickel Dei Frebi*

Tribute by Brothers and Sisters

Death is a painful thing to all humans but most times it is the family that feels the pain most strongly. The loss of a sibling, in whatever form, is very devastating.

Some called her Sister; others Cousin Efua; and her close friends simply, Efua Nickel. Osofo, as she was affectionately called, played a key role in our family as an elder who acted as a flux and glued us together. She had listening ears and resolved several problems among siblings. She was indeed a unifier. Our sister, Osofo Efua Nickel, was very intelligent, humble, gentle, respectful and affable. As siblings we had a fair share of jokes and taunts. Sister Efua, exhibited genuine Christian values by words and deeds.

Everyone in the close and extended family will say with sincerity and confidence that your generosity knew no bounds. You abhorred publicization of the generosity extended to people but the sincere ones did. We are all grateful.

The demise of Sister Efua, has indeed created a deep void in the family. Osofo, the legacy you left behind shall forever be remembered: abolishing the pouring of libation in the family, turning the hearts of some of us who did not know Christ to the Lord, paying the school

fees of some of your nephews and nieces to enable them to attain higher academic statuses in tertiary institutions, your godly counseling and encouragement, and many, many more.

Sister Evelyn, Osofo Nickel was the epitome of perseverance and absolute trust in God. A shining star in the family has fallen. It is all gloom for us but we draw comfort from the following scripture:

"Good people pass away; the godly often die before their time. But no one seems to care or wonder why. No one seems to understand that God is protecting them from the evil to come. For those who follow godly paths will rest in peace when they die."

(Isaiah 57: 1-2) NLT

"When the game is over, we will all go home".

"The noisy song is ended but the melody lingers on."
(Uhuru Kenyatta / Irvin Berlin).

*Beloved sister, Rest in perfect peace.
Sister Efua dei freibi*

Tribute by Children

Death is, without a doubt, unavoidable! Philosophers have made us to understand that we all have a death voucher that specifies when, where and how we will exit this world. From this, one thing is certain: we will all go on that eternal voyage at some point in the future. In spite of the fact that death is inevitable, we nevertheless grieve when our loved ones, particularly a parent, passes on. Indeed, the sorrow of losing a parent, especially a mother, is to the extreme and emotionally severe.

Ma, no words can describe the feeling we get when we think of the fact that you are no more. Certainly, no one can truly appreciate the pain of losing such a person as you. You were a real pillar our lives. To the rest of the world, you were just one person but you were the entire world to us.

Outlining your sacrifices you made for us would be a huge task. You were a selfless woman who made sure we received the best in terms of education, upbringing and indeed, in all aspects of life within the limited resources available at your disposal. For those who misunderstood you, you came across as too strict. For those of us who understood you, we saw you as someone who always wanted the right thing to be done. As a result of the kind of upbringing we experienced

from you, we are a balanced individuals that you were proud of.

Your love for reading which we picked up, has really helped us throughout our life especially in studying Law. You were always by our side encouraging and supporting us. Even though you were not in the best of health, you made it a point to be there when Gideon was being Called to the Bar.

You always opened your doors to the less privileged, just to ensure that as many people as possible could have a better life. You were proud of your roots and always made sure that we maintained a connection to our roots by taking trips to Senya Beraku, whenever it was possible. Through your open arms, you gave us a lot of siblings. We fervently pray that all the prayer you have said for us during your lifetime would continue to follow us until our last breath.

You'll always be a part of us and in our hearts, Mother. We shall always love you. You have earned the right to finally rest in peace and be free of all anguish. Your memory will live on in the hearts of your family and all those who were fortunate enough to know and love you.

We can't finish this without appreciating all those who stood with us at the time of our grief. No doubt, your presence, prayers, calls and messages were overwhelming, calming, and encouraging. We pray that God rewards you abundantly. Amen!

*Tribute from Daughters-In-Law
From Mrs. Gladys Abbeyquaye*

Dear Ma,

I knew you had not been well for a while but I never thought you were ready to go home to your Maker this soon. Nothing could have prepared me for such a shock. I take consolation in the word of God:

*"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me,
Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord
from henceforth...". Revelation 14:13*

Ma, though you were unwell when you visited earlier in April, you kept assuring me that you would be fine. Because I trusted the good Lord for your healing, I held on to your words. How can I ever forget those precious moments after we had prayed together on Saturday morning and on Monday morning?

I can't forget how you thanked me and kept assuring me you will be fine. Your desire for your grandchildren were all summed up in that moment after prayer on Monday when you gently explained the scriptures to Ayeyi.

Unfortunately, I could not constrain you to stay on with us longer though you were unwell because you had a doctor's appointment to keep. In retrospect, we see you had a higher and greater appointment with your Maker.

I am very much grateful to you, Ma, for raising for me a great husband, and a great dad to Nennyi, Nhyira and Ayeyi. Ato, as you affectionately called him is indeed a blessing to me, to his family and friends, and for that, I will forever appreciate all your sacrifices. Thank you, for raising such a fine gentleman for me. One thing that will stay with me forever is when during your last visit, you thanked me for taking great care of Ato (My dear husband) and for giving you beautiful grandchildren. Your last words to me were golden and precious. They were words of affirmation and blessing. I will forever remember your last moments with us. These, I will forever treasure and keep in my heart.

*Rest well Ma
Rest in the bosom of the Lord
Amen*



Tributes from Grandchildren

From Nennyi

"Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers" Proverbs 17:6

When I was young I used to see grandma a lot because we used to stay close to her. I remember my sleepovers at her house where a lot of people stayed with her. There were always family members and other people in grandma's house. Everywhere she was, you were sure to see young people around her. I remember my visits to grandma at the various towns where she served as the Minister in charge of the Methodist church. I remember I could go out and play with a lot of the young people in the community, an environment which was completely different from the university campus, where I lived. Even when she moved to Kasoa, I still saw new faces around any time I visited Grandma.

"But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children" Psalm 103:17

Grandma got me my first ever book of Bible story set. She wanted me to study and know the word of God right from my childhood. Over the years, she gave me more of such books.

Who are we to challenge what God has appointed unto you, Grandma. It is well with us. Your God-fearing nature, your service to God and humanity give us hope that you have indeed been called by God.

Ecclesiastes 3:2 tells us that, there is a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot. We rather wished you could have lived a bit longer to impact our lives more and at least, see us graduate from school. I remember our visits to Kasoa and how you were always happy to see us. We thank the Lord for a life well lived.

As you transit this phase to join your Maker, we take consolation in Psalm 145:4 which says, "*one generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts*". You dedicated yourself to the service of God and humanity. This legacy shall be passed on to the next generation. In paying tribute to my grandma, I sincerely want to praise the name of our Lord God Almighty for giving me such a wonderful person to be my grandma. Your memory will always bring joy to my heart.

*You will always be missed
Rest in perfect peace Grandma
Rest in the Lord your Maker*

From Nhyira

It is with a heavy heart that I write a tribute to Grandma. She was such a loving person who was kind and generous. Anytime I visited her, there will be lots of children in her house, which gave me the opportunity to make new friends. I also had the opportunity to watch Nigerian movies and listen to stories from. Grandma had a lot of story books and always allowed me to borrow some. She always gave me books on my birthday because she liked the fact that I loved to read.

We would almost always pass by her house at Kasoa on our way to Accra. I remember spending the most of the vacations, especially Christmas at her place. She was a gem and my memories of her would will be cherished forever. Every time I went to her house at Kasoa, she would allow me to prepare *indomie*. I would always try to get Grandma to eat some *indomie* but she would always say she could not eat it because she was on a diet. To my delight, I managed to convince her to taste it on a few occasions. Two weeks before her death, she visited us in Cape Coast. I realised Grandma was not well. When I communicated my worries, she assured me that she would be fine and that it would all be over soon so I should not worry.

It was always a joy to see Grandma. I used to see her very often and now so sadly we won't see her again.

On her last visit, when I was leaving for school in the morning, I said, "Bye Grandma, I am going to school". She replied, "Bye Nhyi, I will be leaving today. I will be gone by the time you come home from school". Little did I know that was my last time of seeing her and that she was finally leaving this earth to heaven.

I love you Grandma and you will forever remain in my heart.

Rest In Peace Grandma.



.From Ayeyi

My Grandma was a Reverend Minister. She was a very kind and noble person. Every time I visited her, I always made new friends whom I could talk to and play with. I don't get to watch Nigerian movies at home but anytime I go to grandma I would watch Nigerian movies with her which I enjoyed much. Anytime I was at grandma's house I enjoyed the evening walks and before going to bed, Sister Evelyn would put powder on my face in a way that made it look like makeup.

On my birthday last year, grandma came around but I was still in school. She sent me a large size pizza rich with toppings. I was very happy and I called her to thank her.

In April this year, when grandma visited, I remember in one of our morning devotions, I didn't understand the passage we read. Psalm 18:21-25 was the passage and the topic was "Stay in God's books". Grandma took time to explain it to me. When Grandma was leaving for Kasoa during her last visit, she told me that she would be back to Cape Coast in two weeks' time but God called her home.

*Grandma Evelyn, you will be remembered.
Rest well in the bosom of the Lord Almighty
God bless you.*

Tributes from Afia, Maame Gyaaba, Adjoa and Naa

A mother, a grandma, a friend, a counselor and a role model are a few of the expressions with which we describe you. You played so many roles in all aspects of our lives. With much passion, you nurtured us; you showed us love in many ways. You taught us good morals and made sure we had a personal relationship with the Lord and constantly stressed the need for us to make our Christian walk a practical one. You took time to teach us how to read the Bible during our morning devotions. You even went to the extent of teaching us phonetics during those moments. You were keen on making sure we always did the right thing, you disciplined us whenever we went wrong and you always explained to us before you did so. Mama we knew you prayed for us all the time but we never knew you took time to list our names in your note pad with specific prayer points for each of us. On 13th June, 2021, we chanced on a list of our names in your note pad, dated 24th August, 2009 and this was supposed to be a day before your birthday. Mama, this got us really emotional knowing that you were not around for us to appreciate you for this beautiful gesture.

There were times you made us laugh with those humorous jokes you shared with us. Eventually, we nicknamed you "Mama exa" because you always took very simple stories and made them better. You had unique ways of calling out our names and that made us feel special. Maame will miss hearing you call her Miss Doughan (when you need her to carry out a task or Maame Gyaaba when you feel something is out of place), Afia will miss hearing you call her "chooper chops" when you want to tease her, so will Mrs Ghartey, Naa, Adjoa and Sister Naa miss hearing you call them "Ama Auge", "Naa Korkor sister", "Matilda Abbiw" and "Naa Adowa" respectively and generally calling us "Akosombo kania asor". You made a lot of sacrifices for us to be where we are today.

You made sure occasions like Christmas and Easter were memorable; you did fun things that would put a smile on our faces as well as giving us special gifts. In our adult lives, you sometimes took us out just to give us a treat. Your classy nature manifested in one of our conversations when you said we should wear hats during your obsequies.

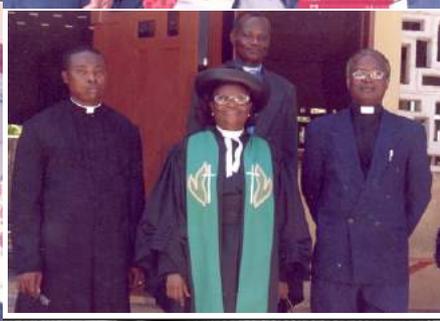
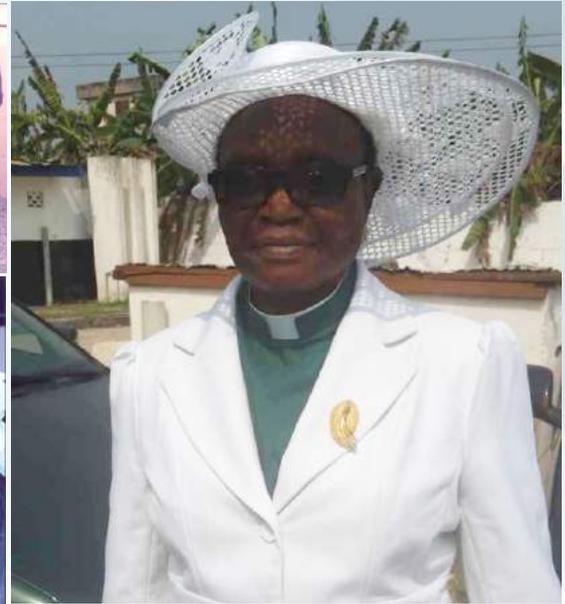
We however, felt that was weird, well, we believe it takes someone who knows your status as a believer to wish for this at a time as this. We are grateful to God for blessing us with a vessel like you. We are also grateful to you for availing yourself. You held on tightly to your ministry of taking care of young people even in your last days.

Mama, we are so proud to have been raised by a pure hearted woman like you. We wished you had stayed a little longer than you did so we could share our low and high moments with you, given that such moments with you were always fruitful and fulfilling. Rev, we know you prayed for us and we believe each of your prayers would manifest in God's own time. We appreciate you so much and wish we had the opportunity to do more to show you how much you meant to us. Unfortunately, that did not materialise but we believe God knows what's best for you than we do.

We celebrate you today because you led a life worth celebrating. Rev, we will miss you but anytime we do, we shall be take consolation in the Holy Spirit and the virtues you instilled in us. In our next world, we pray you would still be our mama. Mama, rest well, Mama, *dei frebi*.

PICTURE GALLERY





Patience Aba Ajibade, Nigeria

My sweet darling Auntie Efua, my mother's younger sister, yes you were very nice to us since our mother died, leaving us when we were so young and vulnerable. You came to Nigeria to make sure that we are all doing well. You came also to settle all that concerned my mother's humble estate. I am aching because I could not come to see you during your brief illness because of the covid19 pandemic. Sleep on, my darling sweet Auntie Efua until we meet again on the resurrection day.

Mildred Araba Oshuntokun, Nigeria

It broke my heart when I received the news of your demise. I was looking forward to when you would come to spend some time with us in Nigeria. You loved us, your family in Nigeria, and wanted to see our faces and communicated regularly with us, which led to forming a group named "*Senya Heritage*", on WhatsApp. You made sure you called each and everyone of us regularly even till a few days to your home call and sent pictures to us, assuring us that you were doing well. Suddenly, we were faced with the rude shock that you'd passed. We lost you just when we were planning a reunion, oh what a loss! Auntie, rest on till the resurrection, when we meet to part no more. we love you and will forever miss you but you remain evergreen in our hearts.

Tribute by the Baiden Family

"Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life, whosoever believes in me will live, even though he dies and who lives and believes in me will never die."
John 11:25&26.

Our earliest memories of Auntie Evelyn was her visits to our home at Kaneshie. We knew she was our auntie from Cape Coast who spoke very good English, Fante and Efutu, and was very cheerful. She always had something for us children. As we grew up, we realised her visits were mainly to see her son, Ekow Korsah, who lived with his family (The Korsah's) next door who we always considered as part of our family. On many occasions, when we went on short holidays to Winneba, Auntie Evelyn would sometimes join us. On other occasions some of us children also went on holidays to Cape Coast, on vacations and that was when we also met Ato, her second born. Our parents, Mr. Ben Baiden (of blessed memory) and Violet Baiden, would, once in a while, visit her. She knew the inside-out of every child of the Baiden's and other family members. As we grew older and left to our various homes, Auntie Evelyn was always there for us when we needed counseling and emotional support.

For some of us, it was no surprise that she became a Reverend Minister of the Lord. As friendly as she was, she was careful with her words and if one was to listen carefully to her, there were always precious nuggets of wisdom to be gleaned from her suggestions.

Her stoic nature enabled her to persevere and remained faithful to her God as well as keep herself cheerful even when she was very ill. When Auntie Evelyn moved to Accra, she took time to visit her friend Violet at Kaneshie and lately in Tema, where she would stay a few days with her friend. This, she did up to a few months before her death, to check up on her friend Violet. We were all devastated when she took ill and have learnt an enduring lesson from the fight she fought to get well. Amazingly, even in her pain, her faith was awesome. She cheerfully reassured us that God was always in control and would give updates of herself making you feel so confident that she's content and that all was fine. In very recent times, she would call for a chat, encouraged us to take care of ourselves and her friend, Violet. Sadly, our prayers for recovery didn't work because God knows best. Our Auntie Evelyn has gone to be with the Lord. We will miss you dearly. *Damirfa Due.*

Tribute from Mildred Asmah (Mrs)

"Precious in the sight of the lord is the death of his saints" Psalm 116: 15

(Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel) A Prolific reader and Coach.

Our paths crossed as year mates at UCC from 1981 to 1986. We, however, started hanging out after school in 1994 when I came back to work at the University of Cape Coast (UCC) where you were already working as an Assistant Registrar. Miss Nickel, you were warm, welcoming and with a positive outlook on life. You could always put anyone at ease with your stories. Some I had heard more than a dozen times, but never got tired of hearing because you always had a different way of saying them.

Even though we were mates at UCC, you eventually took on the role of guiding me "to navigate the UCC waters" until you finally retired. I remember when you recently phoned me that you were in Cape Coast and at CNC, I drove there and sent you straight to Sasakawa restaurant because you had to eat breakfast. It was too early to eat fufu but we still ordered fufu at 11am, with the salesgirls a little surprised. You later sat in the office you had worked in several years ago and waited for your son, Gideon.

I cherished our friendship. Rev, your memory will forever live with me. Who will call me Mildred in a short "staccatoish" manner like her daughter? May you rest in perfect peace until the resurrection morning. Sleep well my longtime friend and coach. It is hard to forget someone who gave you so much to remember.

The good Book of John 11:25 says "I am the resurrection and the life. he who believes in me though he may die, he shall live"

May the Lord grant her a well-deserved peaceful rest. Rest in Perfect Peace, my big sister and friend. Fare thee well.

Tribute in Honour of the Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel by Kate Amartey/Emmanuel Methodist Church, Ola Estates

*Obaatan pa Evelyn Efua Nickel ada dzinn.
Efua dze n'ahoɔfew adaadaa hen mu binom.
Osiandɛ n'ahoɔfew ketaa no honamberɛw do:
Dyerɛw n'ano ber a oruhu amandze mpo.*

The Very Rev Evelyn Efua Nickel and I met in 1967/68 at Winneba while she was working as a young employee at the Post and Telecommunications (P&T) office. Both of us felt we had some common interests like working hard and serving in God's vineyard so we became friends. Evelyn was studious, and was always found reading when free and ever prepared to further her education.

In 1969, I left Winneba for Sekondi and later moved to Cape Coast in 1974 and in 1978/79. Sis Efua and I met again at OLA Estates, where we were residing and had started nurturing a Methodist Preaching Post. Ms. Nickel joined the Emmanuel Methodist Church in 1980/81 as a chorister and later, the Church Guild. She was asked to assist Maame Dodoo to organise the Guild. Maame Dodoo and Sis Evelyn did very well to arouse the interest of their members. The children performed so well that they almost won all the Bible quizzes organised in the Cape Coast Circuit in the 1990s. Auntie Evelyn accepted other responsibilities as a Sunday School Teacher, to the Superintendent level, Lay Reader, Lay Preacher, and a Society Steward. It was at the Emmanuel Methodist Church that Ms Nickel received the call to join the Ministry.

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It was at the Emmanuel Methodist Church that Ms Nickel received the call to join the Ministry. She started her Ministerial Training in Sept. 2001 and completed in 2003.

It is on record that Sis Evelyn was the first Emmanuel member and the only woman from Emmanuel Methodist Church to be candidated for Ministerial Training; the Church was very proud of her. She worked within the Cape Coast Diocese of the Methodist Church, Ghana from 2013 until her superannuation in 2015.

The Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel was full of smiles. She was a resourceful, industrious and innovative person who frequently introduced new products for sale and helped those who sought assistance from her.

*Obaa kokodurfo, mbo na edwuma son a eyee,
De etsetee mbaamba na mbersntse;
Igyina de obaa, igyina de obarimba;*

*Mbo! Ewie w'edwuma ye.
Aka akatua pa a Ohen yamuyiefo no dze bema wo.
Dzi fie kan kotweɔn hen.
DA YIE, DA YIE, DA YIE.*

Tribute by Gethsemane Methodist Church, Ntranoa

Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "*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).

The late Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel joined the Gethsemane Methodist Church in the year, 2003, as a ministerial student, before she was ordained as a fulltime Reverend Minister, which took place at Mt. Olivet Methodist Church, Dansoman, Accra. She proved herself to be a very dedicated Minister whose work, prayer life and demeanour convinced everybody in the society of her faithfulness and deep commitment to God.

During her tenure at Ntranoa, her financial commitment to the church was commendable. Some remarkable legacy we always remember her for was that she would be the first person to pay her tithe, and other contributions with a cheque and encouraged the leaders to do so. She was noted for her punctuality at church service, Leaders' Meeting and other programmes.

She also sponsored one Juliana Essel for her training in

seamstress apprenticeship. She was also instrumental in the appointment of one Victor Fark as a staff of the University of Cape Coast. Finally, she encouraged the church to buy two plots of land, a portion of which has been used for Manse and Sunday School building. The Society is proud to have been associated with such a nice Minister Osofo Evelyn Nickel.

Fare thee well;

May your soul rest in the bosom of your maker, Amen

Tribute by Trinity Methodist Church,

Brenu Akyinmu

Father, I know that all my life

Is portioned out for me

And changes that are sure to come

I do not fear to see

But I ask Thee for a present mind

Intent on pleasing thee (MHB 602)

The late Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel was transferred to Trinity Methodist Church - Brenu Akyinim in 2006 to continue her ministerial formation. She was a very active and principled Minister of God who never at any point in time neglected her duty. She initiated major reforms in the Church and ensured that all church activities were well coordinated.

Rev. Nickel was a disciplinarian, who ensured and insisted that her members live their lives according to the dictates of the scriptures. In her duties, she became a mother to every member of the church (both young and old). She was not selective but loved all. Her doors at the mission house were always open to everyone.

She was a visionary leader who led the church to acquire 4 acres (12 plots) of land from the elders for future projects and ensured that the land was protected by encouraging members to plant trees on it.

Osofo also initiated the talk on securing a piece of land which was lying close to the main church building for future extension. A move which was continued by all successive ministers till the land was finally secured and put to use. She loved to pray and so established a Sectional Prayer Centre at Ayensudo, which is still functional.

Rev. Efua Nickel's four year stay at Trinity Methodist Church was effectively spent and would be credited for major reformations the Church embarked upon. She will be remembered for her kindness, bravery, heart of gold, love for God's work and visionary style of leadership.

*May the Lord keep her gentle soul till we meet again.
Mama Nickel, Damirifa due!*

Tribute by Bethel Methodist Church, Dominase-Komenda

On the first day of October 2010, Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel was posted to Komenda - Dominase as a circuit and sectional minister.. She had her sendoff church service on the 14th September 2014 and finally departed from Dominase on 3rd October, 2014, on supernumerary post at Kasoa.

During her service as a Circuit and Sectional Minister, she was passionate about liturgy, infrastructural development and organisation of leadership programme to shape member's knowledge and to enhance their commitment. In fact, she instituted liturgical colours inside the chapel at Komenda – Dominase Bethel Methodist. Through her leadership and guidance, many young persons in Bethel Methodist and the entire section have become good leaders of the Methodist Church, which we are most thankful and proud of. She was generous in her administration. She opened her door to everybody who approached her to be mentored.

Through her effort and vision, Dominase Section has now become Komenda – Dominase Circuit by Constitution of the Methodist Church, Ghana.

Very Rev. Efua Nickel had a gift of willing to assist in cash or in kind, when necessary and had the passion to see people smile. Reverend, you will forever be in our hearts, especially your members in Bethel Methodist and the entire Dominaseman will never forget you. Your mentees who are now in the Universities, Colleges of Education, Nursing Training Colleges, Stewards and Caretakers will forever delight in cherishing your memories. Leaders of Komenda – Dominase Circuit salute you for your effort and hard work. We know you are gone but not forgotten.

*Ayekoo! Mbo na edwuma!
Hom asomdwee mu.
Da yie! Da yie! Da yie!*

Special tribute to Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickle by Dunwell Society, SSNIT Flats, Elmina and Abina-Atonkwa Society in the Elmina East circuit

*"For all the saints, who from their labors rest?
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, o Jesus, be forever blest
Alleluia, alleluia!"*

oday, you rest from your labors as your earthly assignment is brought to an end. Even though you have fallen asleep, you are not forgotten.

Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickle joined the Dunwell Society, SSNIT Flats, Elmina, in October 2014, when she came to settle at Atonkwa in the then Elmina Circuit after superannuation. You instantly fitted into the Church because you had earlier worked in the then Elmina Circuit which Dunwell was part of. You brought your tremendous and rich experience in the ministry to bear on all aspects of the Church to the benefit of both the clergy and the laity. The long-standing desire by Dunwell Society to plant a church at Abina-Atonkwa was bolstered and realized during your two years stay at Atonkwa and for us at Dunwell Society we know you were God sent and we are forever grateful.

You will forever be in our hearts at Atonkwa Society. The history of Atonkwa Society of the Methodist Church, Ghana, cannot be told without the pivotal role you played in making a three year dream of planting a church within the Abina-Atonkwa area a reality. When you relocated to Atonkwa on superannuation, you strongly desired for a Bible class in the town and in the process of starting this, the Circuit Evangelism team led by Evangelist Lawrence Asouboteng, under the Superintendency of Very Rev. Seth Opare-Sakyi, seized the opportunity, with your support and had an evangelism outreach program in the town during the

evangelism week of 2015. What was to be our first Bible Class Meeting at Atonkwa rather became the beginning of a new Society.

The souls that were won, together with the few members who lived in Abina and Atonkwa communities formed the nucleus of this new society. You were so glad to see a Society planted in the town. As an infant society we were blessed to have you as our minister.

Your tutelage and guidance helped us to avoid the many mistakes young societies make in their infant stages. You taught us the word of God, to love one another, giving, importance of prayer, liturgy, financial management, church administration and the important areas we were to spend our meagre resources on as a young society not forgetting our Communion Services. You were not only there for our spiritual nourishment but you also contributed financially in tithes, offerings and special contributions. You did not spend many years with us but your time spent with us was what gave the church the strong foundation in Methodism we enjoy today.

Even when you relocated to Kasoa, you never seized to call to find out how the Church was faring. You would always try to find out how each person was doing by mentioning our names.

Mummy as we affectionately called you, we are grateful for your love, commitment, dedication in planting and nurturing the Abina-Atonkwa Society of the Methodist Church Ghana. We know you are not dead but asleep. Soon, the trumpet will sound and we shall see you again.

Da yie Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickle, Nantsiw yie Mummy Efua Nickle.

*Tribute by the Central Administration,
University Of Cape Coast*

*So we are always of good courage.
We know that while we are at home in the body we are
away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight.
Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather
be away from the body and at home with the Lord.
2 Corinthians 5:6-8*

It is with a deep sense of sorrow and sadness that the Central Administration of the University of Cape Coast pays this glowing tribute to the late Very Rev. Evelyn Efua Nickel.

She was appointed as an Assistant Registrar on 1st June, 1990. After her three months experiential exposure in the

form of orientation, she was placed at the Personnel Section and on 7th January, 1991 she was transferred to the Public Affairs Section.

She was granted a two (2) year study leave to pursue a Master's programme in Higher Education at UCC from September, 1996 to 31st August, 1998. On completion of her studies, she was appointed Faculty Officer at the Dean's Office, Faculty of Science on 2nd August, 1999. Her keen interest in administration drove her passion, and she gained an extensive knowledge and skill in the area of dispensation. It was, therefore, not surprising that by dint of hard work and commitment to duty, she was promoted to the rank of Senior Assistant Registrar, a position she held until her retirement.

Her desire for advancement and interest in helping with the spiritual needs of people around her led her into ministry and was enrolled for theological training on 1st October, 2001. She was commissioned by the Methodist Church on 8th June, 2003, as a Reverend Minister.

The late Rev. Evelyn Nickel made numerous contributions in the University and the country. The following are a few contributions left to her memory:

- She was appointed Counsellor of the then New Hall of Residence from 8th November, 1990 to 30th September, 1991 by the Interim Administration Committee.
- She was appointed consecutively as Counsellor of Valco Hall from 1st October, 1993 to 30th September, 2008.

The late Rev. Evelyn Nickel had a warm disposition towards all; superiors, colleagues and subordinates alike. She kept an open door and many people benefitted from her empathetic counseling, pieces of advice and kind words that helped re-orient confused and troubled minds. She was a remarkable teacher in the area of administration and a disciplinarian, who would not mince her words but state issues clearly just as they appeared.

Rev. Nickel, your selflessness and undaunted service to the University and the country as a whole will not be forgotten.

Fare thee well, and may the good Lord keep you resting peacefully in His bosom till we meet again.

M.H.B 113

1. WHEN morning gilds the skies,

My heart awaking cries:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer

To Jesus I repair:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

2. Does sadness fill my mind?

A solace here I find-

May Jesus Christ be praised!

When evil thoughts molest,

With this I shield my breast-

May Jesus Christ be praised!

3. Be this, when day is past,

Of all my thoughts the last,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

The night becomes as day,

When from the heart we say:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

4. To God, the Word, on high

The hosts of angels cry,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let mortals, too, upraise

Their voice in hymns of praise:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

5. Let earth's wide circle round

In joyful notes resound:

May Jesus Christ be Praised!

Let air, and sea, and sky,

From depth to height, reply:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

6. Be this while life is mine,

My canticle divine,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this the eternal song

Through all the ages long,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Amen.

MHB 428

1. I'll praise my Maker while I've
breath;

and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler
powers.

My days of praise shall ne'er be past
while life and thought and being
last,
or immortality endures.

2. How happy they whose hopes
rely
on Israel's God, who made the sky
and earth and seas with all their
train;

whose truth forever stands secure,
who saves the oppressed and feeds
the poor,
and none shall find God's promise
vain.

3. The Lord pours eyesight on the
blind;
the Lord supports the fainting mind
and sends the laboring conscience
peace.

God helps the stranger in distress,
the widowed and the parentless,
and grants the prisoner sweet
release.

4. I'll praise my Maker while I've
breath;and when my voice is lost in
death, praise shall employ my nobler
powers.
My days of praise shall ne'er be past

MHB 914

1. God be with you till we meet
again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.
2. God be with you till we meet
again;
Neath His wings protecting hide
you;
Daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.
3. God be with you till we meet
again;
With the oil of joy anoint you;
Sacred ministries appoint you;
God be with you till we meet again.
4. God be with you till we meet
again;
When life's perils thick confound
you;
Put His arms unfailing round you;
God be with you till we meet again.

5. God be with you till we meet
again;
Of His promises remind you;
For life's upper garner bind you;
God be with you till we meet again.
6. God be with you till we meet
again;
Sicknesses and sorrows taking,
Never leaving or forsaking;
God be with you till we meet again.
7. God be with you till we meet
again;
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Strike death's threatening wave
before you;
God be with you till we meet again.
8. God be with you till we meet
again;
Ended when for you earth's story,
Israel's chariot sweep to glory;
God be with you till we meet again.

MHB 528

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 492

1. I the good fight have fought--

Oh, when shall I declare!

The vict'ry by my Saviour got,

I long with Paul to share.

2. Oh, may I triumph so,

When all my warfare's past;

And, dying, find my latest foe

Under my feet at last!

3. This blessed word be mine,

Just as the port is gained--

Kept by the power of grace divine,

I have the faith maintained.

4. The apostles of my Lord,

To whom it first was given,

They could not speak a greater

word,

Nor all the saints in heaven.

MHB 500

1. Peace! doubting heart; my God's I
am;

Who formed me man, forbids my
fear;

The Lord hath called me by my
name;

The Lord protects, for ever near;
His blood for me did once atone.

And still He loves and guards His
own.

2. When passing through the watery
deep,

I ask in faith His promised aid,

The waves an awful distance keep,
And shrink from my devoted head;

Fearless their violence I dare;
They cannot harm, for God is there!

3. To Him mine eye of faith I turn,
And through the fire pursue my way;

The fire forgets its power to burn,
The lambent flames around me play;

I own His power, accept the sign,
And shout to prove the Saviour
mine.

4 When darkness intercepts the skies,
And sorrow's waves around me roll,
When high the storms of passion
rise,

And half o'erwhelm my sinking soul,
My soul a sudden calm shall feel,
And hear a whisper, "Peace: be still!"

5 Still near me, O my Saviour, stand!
And guard in fierce temptation's
hour;

Hide in the hollow of Thy hand;
Show forth in me Thy saving power;
Still be Thy arms my sure defence;
Nor earth nor hell shall pluck me
thence.

MHB 494

1. A safe stronghold our God is still,
a trusty shield and weapon;
he'll keep us clear from all the ill
that hath us now o'ertaken.

The ancient prince of hell
hath risen with purpose fell;
strong mail of craft and power
he weareth in this hour;
on earth is not his fellow.

2. With force of arms we nothing
can,
full soon were we down-ridden;
but for us fights the proper Man
whom God himself hath bidden.
Ask ye who is this same?
Christ Jesus is his name,
the Lord Sabaoth's Son;
he, and no other one,
shall conquer in the battle.

3. And were this world all devils o'er,
and watching to devour us,
we lay it not to heart so sore;
they cannot overpower us.

And let the prince of ill
look grim as e'er he will,
he harms us not a whit;
for why? his doom is writ;
a word shall quickly slay him.

4. God's word, for all their craft and
force,
one moment will not linger,
but, spite of hell, shall have its
course;

'tis written by his finger.
And though they take our life,
goods, honour, children, wife,
yet is their profit small;
these things shall vanish all:
the city of God remaineth.

MHB 652

1. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.

2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er
us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

3. Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

MHB 828

1. Ten thousand times ten thousand
In sparkling raiment bright,
The armies of the ransomed saints
Throng up the steeps of light:
'Tis finished, all is finished,
Their fight with death and sin;
Fling open wide the golden gates
And let the victors in.

2. What rush of alleluias
Fills all the earth and sky!
What ringing of a thousand harps
Proclaims the triumph nigh!
O day, for which creation
And all its tribes were made;
O joy, for all its former woes
A thousandfold repaid!

3. O then what raptured greetings
On Canaan's happy shore!
What knitting severed friendships
up,
Where partings are no more!
Then eyes with joy shall sparkle

That brimmed with tears of late,
Orphans no longer fatherless,
Nor widows desolate.

4. Bring near Thy great salvation,
Thou Lamb for sinners slain;
Fill up the roll of Thine elect,
Then take Thy power and reign;
Appear, Desire of nations,
Thine exiles long for home;
Show in the heavens Thy promised
sign;
Thou Prince and Saviour, come.

MHB 976

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. [Refrain]

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

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

(At sea, instead of stanza 4, the
following shall be sung:)

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