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CELEBRATING A LIFE WELL LIVED

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DR. SAMUEL MATI GIDEON MWINZI

1930 - 2021



## NAIROBI BAPTIST CHURCH ORDER OF EVENTS

**2PM**

**Processional:**

Instrumental: Rock of Ages

**Welcome & Opening Prayer**

Hymn: Amazing Grace

1st Bible Reading: Psalm 23 1-6 Kimanzi Mati

**Eulogy:** Prof. J.K.G. Mati

Hymn: When Peace Like A River

2nd Bible Reading: Romans 8 28-39 Roselyne Mawia Kavyu

**SERMON**

Tributes:

M.C. Mwalimu Mati

Siblings: Prof. J.K.G. Mati

Mrs. Naomi Kavyu (read by Naomi Kiluti Onyango)

Children:

Jennifer Mwinzi

Grand-Children:

Bretta Oluyede

Sammie-Marie Oluyede

Nzambu Musili

Oluwafemi Ziekii Oluyede

In-Laws:

Eric Malonza

Nieces/Nephews/Grand-Nieces/Grand-Nephews:

Joan Mati

Friends:

Mrs. Nyiva Mwendwa

**OFFERTORY :**

Hymn: Thou Art The Way

**Prayers for the Family**

**Announcements & Vote of Thanks**

**Recessional Hymn**

The Day Thou Gavest Lord is Ended

**Viewing & Condoling with the Family**

# EULOGY

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Dr. Samuel Mati Gideon Mwinzi, fondly referred to as SMG, was born in Mwingi, Kitui County in 1930 within an early Christian community near the present day Ithumbi AIC Church. His parents were early converts and had set out to establish a village for Christians.

The second son of Gideon Mati wa-Nzoka and Tabitha Mbesa wa-Mboo, Samuel started his formal education at the Government Elementary School at Migwani (1933-1937), passing the Common Entrance Examination (commonly referred to as “Common”) in 1937. This was the gateway for admission to the Government African School (GAS) at Kitui (1938–1941), where he sat and passed the Kenya African Primary Examination. Between 1942 and 1945 he attended Mang’u High School, passing the Cambridge School Certificate examination in 1945. The following year 1946 he was admitted at Makerere College, Kampala, Uganda, where he studied Medicine, graduating in 1955.

During 1955-1956 Samuel undertook Internship training at the King George VI Hospital (today’s KNH), in Nairobi, after which he was immediately appointed Medical Officer. His first appointment as Medical Officer was at Kisii District Hospital (1956), followed by posting to Kangundo District Hospital (1957). He then embarked on private practice in Nairobi, with the veteran private practitioner, the late Dr Samson Mwathi, before moving his practice to Kitui in the early 1960s. About this time, in 1965, Samuel married Bretta Kanini Malonza and started a family. They had three lovely daughters, Carolyne, Maureen and Jennifer and were a happy family.

In 1968, together with his young family, he travelled to the United Kingdom where he undertook specialist training in internal medicine, culminating in his admission to the prestigious Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians, London.

On his return to Kenya he practiced as a consultant Physician and Neurologist at the Kenyatta



National Hospital. A few years later he set up his own practice at the Nairobi Hospital, from where he practiced for four decades until his retirement in 2015.

In 2016, Samuel was diagnosed with vascular dementia, ironically a neurological ailment that causes gradual decline in abilities. Despite this he continued to be source of strength and joy for his family. He maintained his independent spirit, his love for football and music and being outdoors in his garden.

A successful professional, Samuel was well respected for both his medical skills and his wisdom. He had a broad spectrum of friends, reflecting his well roundedness. Not many knew for example that Samuel was musically inclined. He took piano lessons at Mangu High School and was a choir leader. He also attended music lessons at the Kenya Conservatoire of Music in Nairobi. All his homes had a piano or keyboard, and music was very much part of his life.

Samuel was dapper and extremely well dressed in a conservative but fashionable style. His sense of humour was incisive and evidence of the keen intellectual he was. Had he not become a doctor he might well have been a historian. Many a friend and relative will recall his great library of biographies of history's greats.



Samuel was generous, to a fault. Those who knew him well would surely observe his continuous acts of selfless giving. Sometimes the cheques would fly! Giving of his time, he would treat patients with the utmost care taking the most detailed histories and thus assisting the specialists who consulted him to plot their interventions and save lives.

A role model indeed for the next generation, Samuel Mwinzi's life demonstrates that one can live a full and prosperous life, whilst retaining integrity as a professional and decency as a human being. Well known to the great and good, he was self-effacing, yet supremely confident of his abilities and aware of his great talents. It was such qualities that enabled him to endure what might have broken most others.

Raising three precious daughters into their adulthood after the passing of his beloved Bretta is a singular accomplishment in and of itself. He experienced the great joy of being a doting grandpapa to Bretta Oluyede, Sammie-Marie Oluyede, Nzambu Musili and Oluwafemi Ziekii Oluyede.

For this and many, many other good deeds rendered by Samuel to the people he met and touched, we can only say Thanks be to God for the gift to us that Samuel truly was.

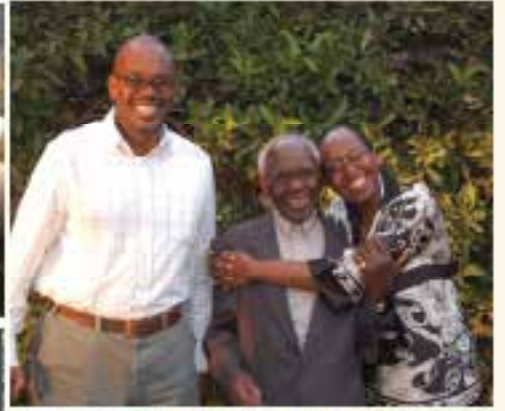
On the 18th of September, Samuel started having problems speaking and swallowing and was rushed to the Nairobi Hospital where he was diagnosed with Covid. He was able to overcome that illness but later developed pneumonia. On the morning of October 12th his condition deteriorated and he passed on at 6am.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

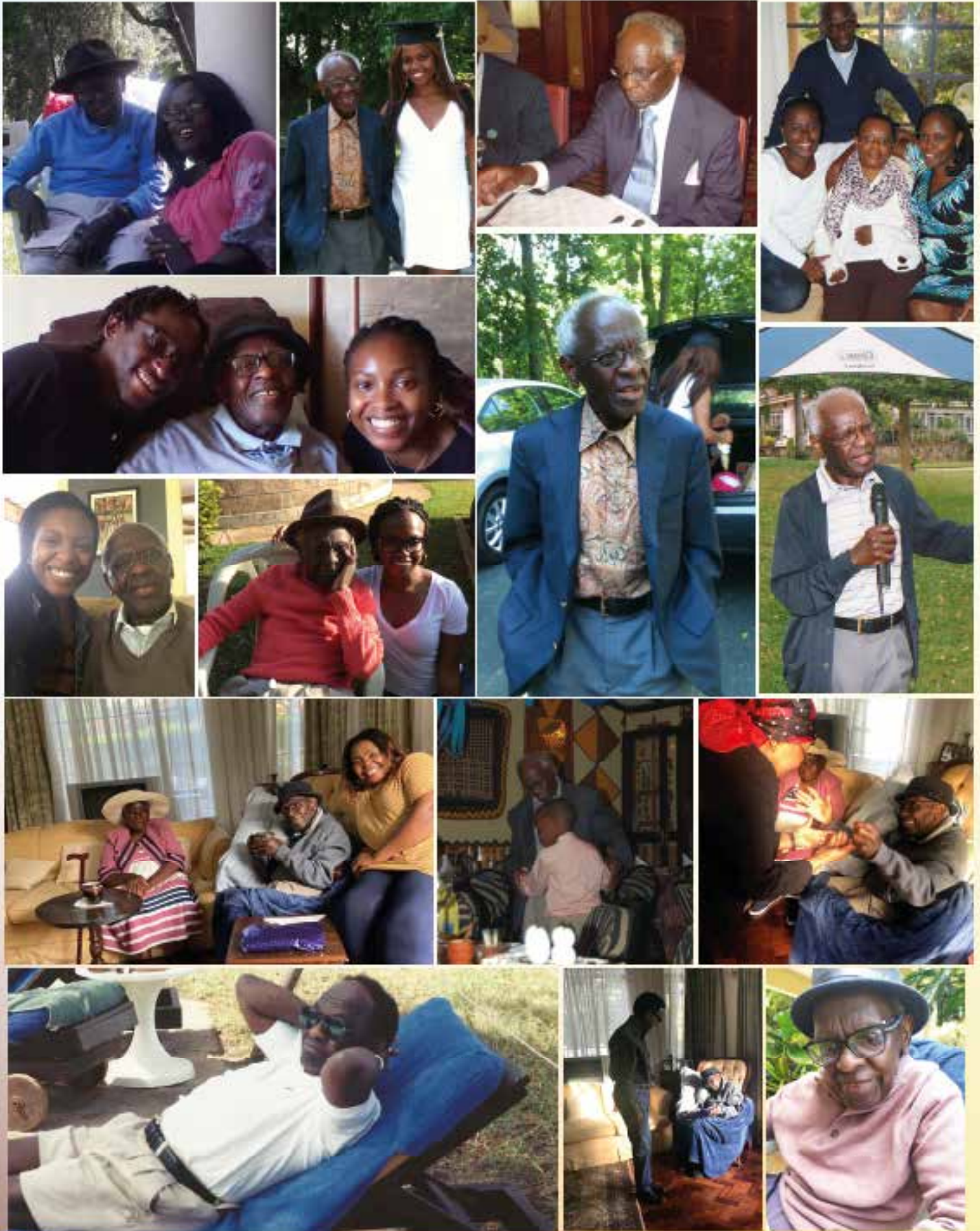
# MEMORIES



# MEMORIES



# MEMORIES



# TRIBUTES

## **FAREWELL SAMWELI**

My brother Samweli loved me very much and I loved him very much too. Since our childhood and up to his departure, my brother was my rock that I could always lean on.

My brother was our family doctor. He treated me, my late husband Mwalimu Kavyu and our children. Whenever I took my children to him for treatment he would either treat them or refer them to other doctors. We felt safe and protected under his care and his death is very devastating to me and my family.

My brother was always there for me and my entire family. For many years he was the head of our Mati family after our parents and eldest brother Fred Mbiti Mati passed away. We will miss you and forever be grateful for your love and kindness.

My prayers and thoughts are with his family and I know our Lord Almighty is going to protect and guide them.

I loved my brother very much however I have accepted God's will the giver of life. This world is a poorer and lonelier place without you my brother but I also know I will meet you again in heaven.

May your soul rest in eternal peace

## **Sister Naomi Kiluti Kavyu**

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### **FARE THEE WELL UNCLE DR MWINZI**

It is with fond memories of adoration and sadness that we say goodbye to our beloved uncle Dr Mwinzi. Yes Uncle "Samweli" as our late dad Wellington Kavyu Munyasya RIP and our mum Naomi Kiluti Kavyu fondly called Uncle Mwinzi. We all grew up hearing this name that signified the highest level of class, love, respect and adoration. Our dad and mum loved and respected Dr Mwinzi. This love and adoration trickled down to all of us and it is truly with very heavy and painful hearts that we say farewell to our hero uncle.

For the longest time we the Kavyu's enjoyed the most privileged position of having a world renowned physician neurologist as our family doctor for free. Take a moment and think of what that means. We had a physician who treated presidents in this country and every who's who in Kenya and abroad. And yet when we needed medical attention he humbly cleared his diary for us. I mean we literally did not make appointments to see Uncle Mwinzi we just showed up at his consultancy at Nairobi Hospital and got first class treatment.

Some people say a lot of things when they lose loved ones but we want everyone to know that the loss of our uncle is a devastating blow to the Kavyu Family.

Our dad (RIP) had illnesses that required medical attention for many years and his only doctor was our late Uncle Mwinzi. Our mum's doctor for many many years was Uncle Mwinzi until he retired and referred her to her current doctors. To all of us Kavyus, Nairobi Hospital was synonymous with Dr Mwinzi. In fact if we had our way we would rename the hospital "Dr Mwinzi Memorial Hospital" - he earned and deserves this honour.

There isn't enough space here for us to say the things we would love to say however our hearts, thoughts and prayers are with our Uncle Mwinzi's family. We love you just as much as we loved our uncle and we will forever be family.

Till we meet again fare thee well Uncle Mwinzi

## **Kavyu Children's Tribute to their Uncle**

# TRIBUTES

My clause will summarize on treatment and I quote “CHARGE ON DR MWINZI’S ACCOUNT.” This is what happened to me when I was in form two and Macau took me to his clinic. Inya and Tata had given some money to pay in the hospital, but that is What Uncle Dr Mwinzi wrote on top of prescription forms for my X-ray and blood pressure tests in 1993. May his should rest in eternal peace Amen

## **Kiteme Kavyu**

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What can we say about our Umu Dr Samuel Mwinzi?

The fact that he’s not with us anymore breaks our heart.

From the time we were very small, we knew that he was the ideal example of what an intelligent, successful family man should be.

Not only was he one of the elder brothers to our grandma Naomi, but he was also an incredible human being who left his mark on everyone he met.

Today, not only do we see our family grieving, we see so many friends, co-workers, neighbours, and others who are also mourning the loss of this great man.

We want to tell you what kind of person our grandfather really was.

He loved his family. His three precious gems - Aunty Carol, Aunty Maureen and Aunty Jennifer. He was an exemplary parent who not only treasured his daughters but also his grandchildren.

He was passionate about education.

He had a great sense of humour, discipline and was a great friend to both old and young.

He has inspired many to follow a career in healthcare. Thank you for the many awesome visits at Nairobi hospital and the Doctors plaza.

He was all of these things, and so much more. While we may not know what our future as the extended family looks like without grandpa, we know that we are better people because we were loved by him.

We only hope that we can live up to the example of love, strength, character, and integrity that he set for all of us.

While he’s no longer here to say that he’s proud of us, we carry his strength in our hearts.

The kindest compliment we hope to hear someday is “your grandfather would be proud.”

We are so proud to call Dr Samuel Mwinzi our grandfather.

Mathew 5:4

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

God bless you all.

## **Grandnieces and Grandnephews**

# TRIBUTES

Heaven has added an Angel; Papa was such a kind and generous person. I pray that the precious memories that we carry in our hearts will help our family through this challenging time. May God bless and watch over the Mwinzi family.

Son-in-Law.

**Stephen Oluyede**

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Condolences to the family of Dr SMG Mwinzi.

I first met Dr Mwinzi in 1952 when I joined Makerere Medical school. He was in his final year.

We became friends, neighbours and colleagues working together at KNH and later at TNH.

Dr. Mwinzi was a reserved, reticent and unassuming person. He was entirely professional in his relationships with his colleagues and his patients. Right from his college days Dr. Mwinzi was a rather private man and tidy in every respect. He was a very honourable and dependable gentleman.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

**Mr. M. W. Warambo**

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I met Grandpa in his later years soon after I was born.

I would visit his house often. He was always happy when he saw me. He would watch keenly over me. He gave me the name "The Queen".

I will forever remember him.

**Qui Ndirangu**

# HYMNS

## YILA SOO WA NGAI WIVUVWA

Yila soo wa Ngai wivuvwa, na ivinda yathe-  
la,

Twoona kwakya kwa muthenya ukite,

Al'ovosye makyumbana muinganisyo wa  
kikw`u,

Yesu esia asu nivo ngethw`a nyie.

**Soo wavuvwa tukawlw`a,**

**Yesu ooka tukithauwa,**

**Kuya iulu tukyumbanw`a**

**Twina Yesu, nakwa nivo ngethw`a nyie**

Ala akw`u me anyuve makasyukw`a kioko  
kyu,

N`aa twi vaa na thayu tukialyulwa mii,

Tukikwatwa vamwe namo, tukithauwa ni  
Yesu

Onthe makitalwa, nivo ngethwa nyie.

Twithing`iisyei kuthukuma wia wa Mwiaii  
Yesu,

Tukyonany`a wendo wake na manee;

Na twamina wia witu na mathayu kuku nthi,

Tukituvwa iulu, nivo ngeth`wa nyie.

Twini wiani wake Yesu, ni utanu munene,

Kutavany`a ndeto syake, nuseo.

Na muminukilyo wa nthi tukaenda Ituni,

Vala ve Mwiaii tukathumue.

Kutavany`a ndeto syake, nuseo.

Na muminukilyo wa nthi tukaenda Ituni,

Vala ve Mwiaii tukathumue.

## VANDU VAU NI VASEO-MUNO

Vandu vau ni vaseo muno

Vala Yesu na Ngai matuaa

Eth'wa twimwitikila Yesu

Tukavika Itina kwake.

Ii Yesu waitu,

Ututethye tuvike kwaku

IiYesu Mutangiii

Twikuvoya tutue kwaku.

Na ve vangi vathuku muno

Vena na thina munene na woo;

Na nivo twaelete tene,

Keka twatangiiwe ni Yesu.

Nzia ili nimbingue yu,

Kana ithyi tunyuve imwe

Muthiani w`imwe ni Yesu

Na satani wa ila ingi.

Indi twalekya undu w`onthe

Ula utamwendeesya Yesu;

Tukanengwa maundu make

Ala matanyamasya ta nai.

# HYMNS

## TWAVIKA KWA MUSUMBI

Twavika kwa Musumbi tukaina na alaika,  
Tukaina, tukaina,  
Twavika musyi kwake tukamutaia we,  
Tukaina na muyo.

Twavika mbee wa Yesu,  
Tukaina na alaika, tuimukatha Musumbi,  
Aleluya, Aleluya,  
Tuungamite mbee wake.

Tweew`a soo ukivuvwa tukamwona Mu-  
sumbi,  
Tukaina, tukaina,  
Woo witu ukathela tuimukatha we weka,  
Tukaina na muyo.

We Yesu ndongoesya wambita nuke kwa-  
ku,  
Tukaina, tukaina,  
Unengae vinya waku niendanasye naku,  
Kyalo kyonthe kithele.

## NDONGOESYA WE YEOVA

Ndongoesya we Yeova,  
Munene kwi Ngai syonthe;  
Ni munini ndi na vinya  
Na umanyi ndi naw`o,  
Ni kyaloni kya weuni wa kuu nthi

Tene niwatongoesye,  
Andu maku weuni;  
Manengiwe liu na manzi,  
O na matyaatwikiwa,  
Nakwa tamo mbianisya vata.

Andu ma nthi nimangangaa,  
Ta malondu ala mau;  
Nundu mati na muithi,  
Wisi kamasuvia,  
Wi muithi ula museo muno.

Thayu wakwa w`onthe kuu nthi,  
Unzuviae Yesu,  
Niwakw`ie kwondu wakwa;  
Na niwisi nzia vyu,  
Mbikya kwaku nokw`o niendete  
yu

# HYMNS

## NI NTHI NZEO

Ni nthinzeo kuya lulu alai-  
ka meina kw`o

Aleluya kwa Mwovosya  
kwa Musumbi Osana;

Twi kyaloni kya kuthi kw`o  
tutongoew`e ni Yesu,

Tuthi nthi Isu ya utanu  
tume nthi ya woo na nai.

**Utanu twavika kw`o,**

**Tukanewa ngovia;**

**Utanu ndukathela,**

**Ni nthi nzeo kuya iulu.**

Ni nthi nzeo kuya lulu na  
amwe nimavikie,

Na ivinda yi vakuvi yila  
naitu twithi kw`o;

Tukathi kwa Yesu vala  
tukaina na mbeve,

Tukikatha syitwa yake nthi  
Isu tene na tene.

Ni nthi nzeo na ve vandu  
vaseuvitwe kwa onthe,

Ala maikiia Mwovosya na  
kiw`a, wasya wake

Tukethiwa na utanu yila  
Mwiaii wiyiaa,

Tuthi nthi Isu ya utanu  
tume nthi ya woo na nai.

## THOU ART THY WAY

Thou art the way, by Thee  
alone

From sin and death we  
flee;

And he who would the Fa-  
ther seek

Must seek Him, Lord, by  
Thee.

Thou art the truth: Thy  
Word alone

True wisdom can impart;

Thou only canst inform  
the mind,

And purify the heart.

Thou art the life: the rend-  
ing tomb

Proclaims Thy conqu'ring  
arm,

And those who put their  
trust in Thee

Not death nor hell shall  
harm.

Thou art the Way, the  
Truth, the Life;

Grant us the way to know,  
That truth to keep, that

life to win,

Whose joys eternal flow.

## AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace! How sweet the  
sound

That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am  
found;  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my  
heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace  
appear  
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils,  
and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe  
thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to  
me,  
His Word my hope secures;  
He will my Shield and Portion  
be,  
As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart  
shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
A life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve  
like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine;  
But God, who called me here  
below,  
Will be forever mine.

When we've been there ten  
thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing  
God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

# HYMNS

## WHEN PEACE, LIKE A RIVER

When peace like a river at-  
tendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea bil-  
lows roll;  
whatever my lot, thou hast  
taught me to say,

**“It is well, it is well with my  
soul.”**

**It is well with my soul;**

**it is well, it is well with my  
soul.**

Though Satan should buffet,  
though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance con-  
trol:

that Christ has regarded my  
helpless estate,  
and has shed his own blood  
for my soul.

My sin oh, the bliss of this  
glorious thought!

my sin, not in part, but the  
whole,

is nailed to the cross, and I  
bear it no more;

praise the Lord, praise the  
Lord, O my soul!

O Lord, haste the day when  
my faith shall be sight,

the clouds be rolled back as  
a scroll;

the trump shall resound and  
the Lord shall descend;

even so, it is well with my  
soul.

## THE DAY THOU GAVEST, LORD, IS ENDED

The day Thou gavest, Lord, is  
ended,  
The darkness falls at Thy be-  
hest;  
To Thee our morning hymns  
ascended,  
Thy praise shall sanctify our  
rest.

We thank Thee that Thy  
Church, unsleeping  
While earth rolls onward into  
light,  
Through all the world her  
watch is keeping  
And rests not now by day or  
night.

As o'er each continent and is-  
land  
The dawn leads on another  
day,  
The voice of prayer is never  
silent,  
Nor dies the strain of praise  
away.

The sun that bids us rest is  
waking  
Our brethren beneath the  
western sky,  
And hour by hour fresh lips  
are making  
Thy wondrous doings heard  
on high.

So be it, Lord; Thy throne  
shall never,  
Like earth's proud empires,  
pass away;  
Thy kingdom stands, and  
grows for ever,  
'Till all Thy creatures own Thy  
sway.

## NEARER MY GOD TO

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, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee!**

Though like the wander-  
er,  
The sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me,  
My rest a stone,  
Yet in my dreams I'd be

There let the way ap-  
pear,  
Steps unto heav'n;  
All that thou sendest me,  
In mercy giv'n;  
Angels to beckon me

Then with my waking  
thoughts  
Bright with thy praise,  
Out of my stony griefs  
Bethel I'll raise;  
So by my woes to be

Or if, on joyful wing  
Cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars  
forgot,  
Upward I fly,  
Still all my song shall be.



## MWINGI CHURCH ORDER OF EVENTS

**11AM**

**Processional. 59 Kikamba**

Yila soo wa Ngai wivuvwa, na ivinda yathela

**Opening Prayer/Litany**

Psalm : Clergy

**Eulogy: Prof. J.K.G. Mati**

**Hymn No. 136 Kikamba** - Vandu vau ni vaseo muno

**Tributes:**

M.C. Job Mati

Siblings : Mr. Jacob Mati

**Children :**

Jennifer Mwinzi

**Grand-children :**

Bretta Oluyede,

Sammie-Marie Oluyede,

Nzambu Musili & Oluwafemi Ziekii Oluyede

**In-Laws :**

Mr. Muema Malonza

**Nieces/Nephews/Grand-Nieces/Grand-Nephews:**

**Joan Mati**

**Hymn: Hymn No. 38 Kikamba** - Ndongoesya we Yeova

**1st Bible Reading: Psalm 23 1-6 Kimanzi Mati**

**2nd Bible Reading: Romans 8 28-39 Roselyne Mawia Kavyu**

**SERMON**

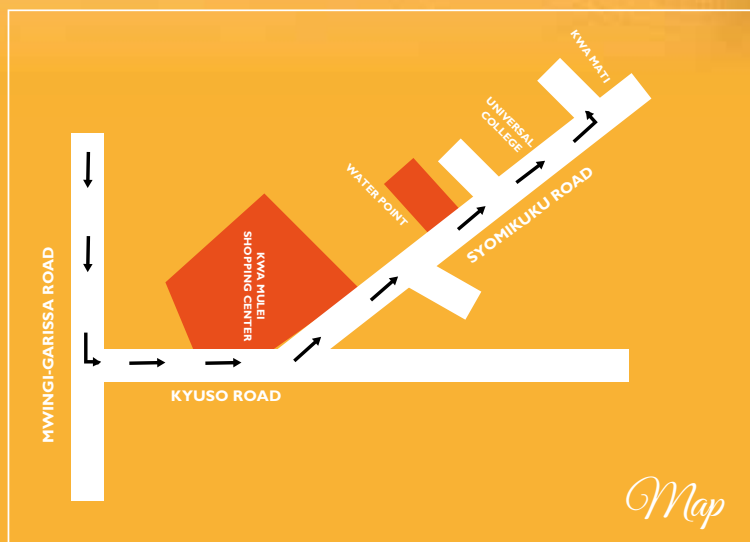
**Offertory: Hymn No. 143 Kikamba** - Twavika kwa Musumbi

**Prayers for the Family**

**Burial**



FARE THEE WELL  
DR. SAMUEL MATI GIDEON MWINZI



Map