

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

Gloria Nelly ACQUAH-ANDOH

July 6, 1945 - June 27, 2025

Service Information

Friday, August 1, 2025
Viewing: 9:00-11:00 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
227 E Lincoln Ave, Mt Vernon, NY 10552

Officiating Ministers

Rev. Tisha M. Branch

Rev. Daniel Asibuoh-Sarpong

Rev. Angela Redman

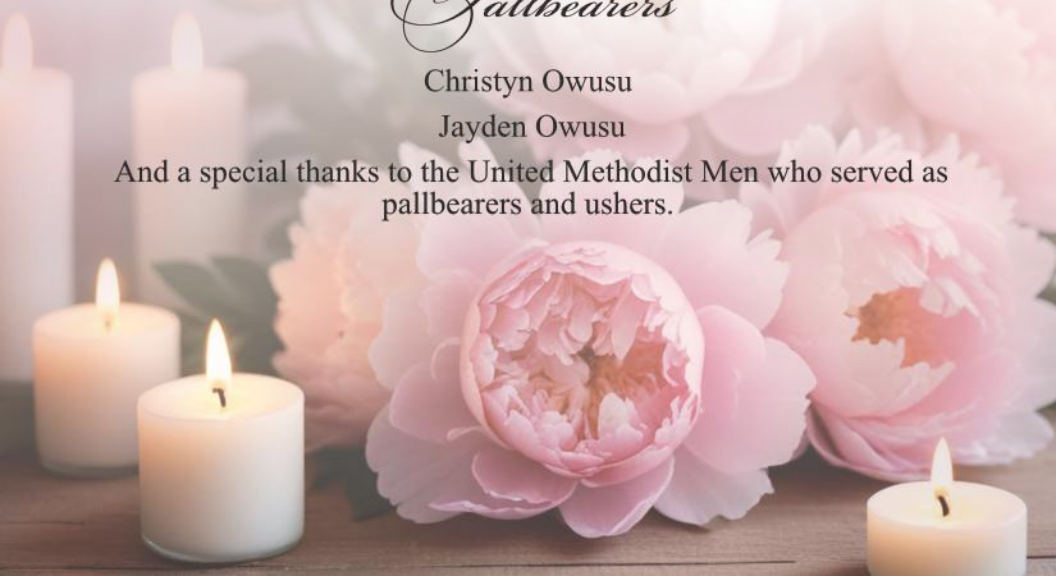
Private Disposition

Pallbearers

Christyn Owusu

Jayden Owusu

And a special thanks to the United Methodist Men who served as pallbearers and ushers.



Order of Service

Gathering Music
Prelude ..... " Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"
Words of Grace & Greeting ..... Rev. Tisha M. Branch
* Opening Hymn ..... Blessed Assurance
Invocation (unison) ..... Rev. Tisha M. Branch

God of tender care, we gather to praise you for your servant Sis. Gloria Acquah whom you have called home. We come in thanksgiving for all she was and for the memories that linger in our hearts. We feel the loss of her presence, but we are grateful that her soul is safe in your care. Dispel the grief and dry any lingering tears, so that we may rejoice in the knowledge that she is at home with you. Grant also that we may follow her example and honor you as our Lord and Savior. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 ..... David Oade
Epistle Lesson -1 Corinthians 15:51-57 ..... Carys Anku
* Gospel - John 141-10a, 15-21, 25-27 ..... Rev. Tisha M. Branch
Family Tribute/Reflections ..... The Daughters:
Judith, Julliet and Christal
Daughters Tribute ..... Julliet
Daughters Poem ..... Judith / Farewell Dear Mother
The Grandchildren: ..... Christyn, Justin, Jayden and Carys
Poem ..... Legacy of Love
Obituary ..... Mrs. Agnes Dormon
Hymn ..... " Take My Life and Let It Be"
Time of Remembrance (2 minutes please) ..... Rev. Angela Redman
Ms. Annie Holm-Graves
Ms. Dorothea Hammond
Mrs Monica Hylton
Mrs. Velma Mitchell

Resolution
Pastoral Prayer ..... Rev. Angela Redman
Hymn ..... " It Is Well With My Soul"
Sermon ..... Rev. Daniel Asibuoh-Sarpong
The Commendation ..... The Clergy
The Lord's Prayer (unison)
Remarks ..... Karrie O. Harvey-Edwards, Funeral Director
Eternity Funeral Services, LLC
Blessing and Dismissal ..... Rev. Tisha M. Branch
* Recessional Hymn ..... "How Great Thou Art"
Postlude

Obituary

Gloria Nelly Acquah-Andoh was born on July 6, 1945, in Dunkwa-on-Offin in the Central Region of Ghana. She was the beloved youngest of seven siblings, and her family affectionately called her Efua Mansa. Her parents were Mr. William Kweku Beedu Andoh of Apam and Madam Mary Botse Acquah of Anomabo.

Gloria began her education in January 1951 at Dunkwa Methodist Primary School and completed her studies at Dunkwa Methodist Middle School in 1960. Her love for music was evident early on, as she joined the Methodist Church choir as a young girl. Singing praises to God would remain a constant joy and passion throughout her life.

Gloria started her career in 1961 at the District Commissioner's Office, serving as a telephonist / receptionist. In 1963, she gained admission to Kibi Women's Training College, where she successfully completed her teacher training in 1967. That same year, she was posted to Accra, where she began her teaching career.

While in Accra, Gloria worshipped at Calvary Methodist Church in Adabraka, where she was an active choir member. Her commitment to the church was unwavering—she never missed a rehearsal and joyfully robed every Sunday. Gloria had an extraordinary knowledge of hymns. During sermons, she would often spontaneously sing verses that connected with the message. Her memory was remarkable; she recalled dates, hymns, and details others easily forgot. A deeply prayerful woman, her faith and devotion to God were central to her life.

In September 1984, Gloria left Ghana for Israel to pursue a course in Religious Studies at the Ecumenical Institute of Tantur in Jerusalem. After completing her studies in 1986, she remained in Jerusalem and worked at the Notre Dame Afro-Asian Center for two years as an office assistant.

Between 1987 and 1989, she worked at the United Nations Office in Israel, followed by a teaching role at a preschool in Jerusalem from 1990 to 1991.

Gloria reunited with her daughters while in Israel. The twins, Judith and Julliet, joined her in 1988, followed by Christal in 1989. When the twins moved to London, Gloria and Christal relocated to New York in 1991 to continue Christal's education.

Always eager to learn and grow, Gloria enrolled at the Workforce and Career Preparation Center in Mount Vernon in 1996, where she trained to become a

certified nursing assistant. She later pursued further education at Westchester Community College in Valhalla, New York, completing a three-year course in Accounting and Business Administration. She earned an Accounting Clerk Certificate and an Associate Degree in Applied Science. She was honored in the National Dean's List Publication (2000 Edition) and became a member of the Alpha Beta Gamma International Business Honor Society.

What an incredible journey for a little girl from Dunkwa-on-Offin. But Gloria; our dear Efua's, greatest achievement was raising her three beautiful girls: Judith, Julliet, and Christal. She raised them single-handedly, with love, faith, and strength, and God truly blessed her efforts.

Aunt Efua was known for her generosity and compassion. Whether it was family or friends, she never hesitated to share what little she had. She maintained strong connections with everyone, always keeping in touch; most recently through WhatsApp.

Gloria's faith guided every step of her life. She was a committed church member, always present at services whenever she could be.

She chose to stay in the home she had known and loved, because it kept her close to the church that meant so much to her—a testament to her faith and dedication to God.

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me,
Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth:
Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors;
And their works do follow them."
— Revelation 14:13

Aunt Efua, your life was a living testimony of worship, service, and love. You fought the good fight, you finished the race, and you remained faithful to the end. You gave your all to God and to those privileged to know you. May the Almighty Father welcome you into His eternal rest.

Gloria Nelly Acquah-Andoh leaves to cherish her memories her elder brother Dominic Andoh, her daughters Judith Boadi (David Oade) , Julliet Boadi (Frankline Owusu-Fordwouh) , and Christal Acquah, and her grandchildren: Christyn Owusu-Fordwouh, Justin Owusu-Fordwouh, Jayden Owusu-Fordwouh, and Carys Anku, and host of in-laws, cousin, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Rest peacefully, Aunt Efua.

Dzi fie kan kotweon hen. Amen.

Tribute from Daughters:

No matter how old you are it's never easy to lose a parent.

We will never again see our mum's smile, hear her laughter, or wake up to her daily messages of prayer and reflection. Our hearts are broken yet filled with gratitude as we celebrate the life of an extraordinary woman - our cherished mother.

She was nurturing, outgoing and full of love and laughter. A devoted Christian - her faith was her foundation, steady and unshakable. A teacher, a trusted colleague and loyal friend, she made everyone feel welcome and truly cared for. She touched countless lives with grace and kindness, but to us, she was simply mum - gentle, strong, endlessly generous and utterly irreplaceable - she was the heart of our world.

When we were young, mum often travelled- for her studies, church, or work - and during those times, her absence was deeply felt. But when we finally joined her in Israel, the distance melted away. We were whole again. We were a family.

The hymns she cherished weren't just songs she sang; they were declarations of hope and strength. Whether humming softly in the kitchen or lifting her voice in praise on Sunday mornings. In our home, hymns were not over when church ended, they carried on through the corner of our everyday lives - sorry mum, we can't sing quite like you.

Although life led us in different directions, you were never far - always just a phone call or text away. We felt your presence in every one of your daily prayer messages. How we wish we could spend one more summer together to enjoy your home cooked meals.

Mum was thrilled at the birth of her first grandchild, at last, she was a grandmother. Her grandchildren were her little miracles, and to them, Nanna was the kind of love that stays with you for a lifetime. She celebrated every birthday and every little accomplishment. Even far away, her presence never faded.

Mum was deeply proud of her Ghanaian heritage and embraced every opportunity to wear and showcase our traditional Kente cloth, with its rich, vibrant, and bold colours - like wearing history, pride and identity itself.

Her passing was sudden, yet we do not mourn without hope. We take comfort in knowing she now rests peacefully in heaven, rejoicing in the presence of the Lord she loved so dearly. Her voice joins a heavenly choir, singing hymns in eternal praise.

Thank you, mum, for showing us what it means to live with purpose and to love without limits. We love you always and will miss you more than words can say.

Your life was a light, and your love, limitless.

Brother's Tribute

My sister Gloria was the youngest in our family, the last born. Though there was a ten-year gap between us, it never felt like a distance.

Gloria was the youngest of seven children born to William Kweku Andoh and Mary Betse Acquah of Dunkwa-on-Offin.

Fanny was the first born, Emmanual (Uncle Kow) was the second. Kweku was third and Kwesi (uncle Kwesi) was the fourth. After Kwesi came three girls, Ama Dede, Thelma and Gloria.

We lost our father in early 1974, and Kweku towards the end of that same year. Our mother passed in 1977. Uncle Kow left us in 1988, Aunt Ama Dede in 2004, Thelma in 2016, and Fanny our first born and big sister in 2020. And now Gloria has joined the loved ones we've lost, and my heart mourns another beautiful soul.

Gloria had a remarkable memory. She had the uncanny ability to remember special occasions like birthdays, never missing a moment to celebrate those she loved. It wasn't just about the dates; it was about making people feel truly special. Her cards and thoughtful messages made each occasion even more memorable. Her kindness left a lasting warmth wherever she went. She had that rare gift of making people feel truly seen and valued.

Though her time here was far too short, the light she gave continues to shine in all of us who were lucky to know her. I will carry her spirit with me always, and I will celebrate her every day especially through the children and grandchildren she leaves behind, her living legacy.

Dominic (uncle Kwesi) & Augusta Andoh.

Missing You Already Auntie Gloria

My first memories of Auntie Gloria were when we all lived together with her older Sister Mrs Fanny Sackey at South Labadi Estate in Accra, Ghana. She was at Teachers training College and would come home for vacations. I was in Primary school at that time and all I remember is everyone said she was beautiful and affectionately called her Aunt Efua or Efua Mansa.

I lost touch with her when my sister and I moved to another part of Accra. I went to boarding school in Cape Coast and spent most of my vacation days in Kumasi. We reunited again in the US in 1999 When she came to my niece Jasmine's wedding in Boston.

Auntie Gloria loved family. Once we all came together again, she never missed any family event. Weddings, funerals, graduations; she was always there to lend her support. She used to visit with Christal when she was younger, which was always very thoughtful as it gave the younger ones a chance to bond and get to know each other. During her trips to Boston, she reconnected us with people we'd grown up with in Dunkwa but hadn't realized were also in Boston. One such person was Paa Mokwa - Mr. Anthony Kofi Amoah. Our gathering at his home for a barbecue, turned out to be a memorable reunion. Sadly, Paa Mokwa also passed away just a week after Auntie Gloria.

Auntie Gloria never missed a moment. At the sudden passing of our nephew Otu, she was there. She sang a solo at the funeral, "Jerusalem the Golden," it was profoundly moving, it brought tears to every eye. Later, when Auntie Bessie's son died, we all travelled to Washington D.C. for the funeral. Afterward, we rode back together and dropped her off in New York. Those shared journeys, even in sorrow, connected us even more.

She was the family photographer. At functions and family gatherings, she would take pictures non-stop. The photos she took were not formal but captured each

memorable moment. In many ways, her photos helped us remember the occasions more vividly.

Auntie Gloria always remembered birthdays and would always call and sing "happy birthday" to you. She was very affectionate and loving.

She loved to pray. She was the family Chaplain. At family gatherings we always elected her to say the prayers. When she prayed, she remembered to pray for everyone.

We miss you already - James, Efua, BJ, Tsotsoe, David - who will pray for us now?

Rest In Peace Auntie Gloria till we meet again.

Agnes Aikins Dormon

Grandchildren's Tributes:

Dear Naana,

Words cannot describe how much I miss you. Sometimes, death comes at unexpected moments, and when it does, we hold onto the memories and moments we shared.

I remember when I was younger, and you'd visit and look after me and that you'd sometimes sing me to sleep. Whenever my mom needed to do her hair, we would take the train to Mount Vernon and we would spend the day together, walking around Mount Vernon and meeting some of your friends. We still have a photo of the two of us sitting at the church piano when we visited your church.

One of my most memorable moments was in 2023, when we went to Disney World. I remember all the rides we went on, the photos we took, and the tourist attractions. Those are memories that I will always cherish.

You were there throughout my childhood. You met many of my friends at birthday parties and playdates. You visited for Christmas, Thanksgiving, and summer vacations. You came to my school events and got involved in my elementary school's international festival. I truly cannot imagine my childhood without you, when you played such a large role in my childhood and growth.

Although you are gone, my heart and mind will never let go of the memories and the times we shared together. I will always miss you and I will always love you.

Your granddaughter - Carys Anku

Christyn

Nanna, you were the matriarch of our family. Despite being thousands of miles away, you were always a constant presence in our lives. Now, I feel your absence even more deeply without the daily WhatsApp messages you used to send - little gestures that carried so much love.

It's a terrible tragedy that you were taken so suddenly, and before reaching the milestone birthday we'd been planning to celebrate with you. Still, I know you lived a beautiful life, full of meaning and joy.

Love you always, Nanna. Rest well.

From your sweetheart - Christyn

Justin

Every day since your passing has felt increasingly hollow. Even though distance separated us, your presence in our lives could never be understated. I believe you watch over us with love, and I hold onto the hope that we remain forever united in spirit.

From your precious one - Justin

Jayden

Nanna I will miss you deeply and hold onto the beautiful memories we shared. Even though we didn't get to see each other very often, it breaks my heart knowing I'll never hear you call me your sweet prince again.

I'll carry your love with me always.

Miss you so much Nanna.

From your sweet prince - Jayden

Nieces and Nephews' Tributes:

2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV)

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

To our Beautiful Aunt Efua,

Although you were far away from us in distance, you were always close in spirit. You never missed a moment to reach out - whether it was a birthday, Easter, Christmas, or any special occasion. You remembered each of us with a phone call or message, making us feel loved and connected, no matter the miles between us.

You also shared daily scripture messages - your way of keeping in touch and encouraging us in our faith. It was a quiet, powerful ministry of love that became a special part of our lives.

Aunt Efua was incredibly generous. She always shared whatever she had, offering her little envelopes with such joy whenever a family member visited her in the U.S. Her kindness and thoughtfulness knew no bounds. She was full of life, always stylish, and never missed an opportunity to send us pictures from her special events. We admired her spirit, her confidence, and the way she celebrated life.

We were all looking forward to celebrating her 80th birthday and sending her the same warm wishes she faithfully gave us each year. The news of her passing was a shock to us, especially since we had just been in contact with her that very week. But the Lord knows best.

We are comforted by the thought that our Aunt Efua is now singing praises with the heavenly angels, glorifying her Maker.

We thank God for her life and for the beautiful memories she has left behind. She will forever live in our hearts.

Da yie Aunt Efua, Nyame mfa wo kra nsie!!! Amen.

From your Nieces and Nephews in Ghana

A Tribute to Our Dearest Auntie Gloria – from the Hammond family

Our dearest Auntie Gloria, to truly capture the essence of who you were in our lives, we could fill an entire book. It's hard to know where to begin, for there's so

much to say. Writing a tribute to a loved one is undeniably one of the most painful tasks, yet as believers, we find solace in the comforting embrace of the Lord.

Auntie Gloria, you graced our lives in the early 80s when we were just children and quickly became one of our most cherished aunties. During the challenging decades of the 80s and 90s, you quite literally saved our family with your unwavering and constant provision of essentials. We vividly recall the countless things you sent our way, and the invaluable exposure this brought into our young lives. We remember watching "The Cosby Show" and the lessons we learned from it, all thanks to you. Your generosity was boundless, showering us with kindness throughout our upbringing and continuing until the very day you departed.

You were that beautiful, dashing auntie we always longed to be with. Though we didn't always live under the same roof, your impact and presence resonated in every aspect of our lives. You remembered every milestone of our growth, making it a point to send heartfelt messages on our birthdays and even those of our children as we grew into adults.

Today, as we mourn your passing, we also celebrate the beautiful life you lived. Rest well, Auntie. Occasions will never be the same without you. Our early morning words of encouragement have ceased, and you will be sorely missed.

Tributes from Sons-In-Law

Today, I honour the memory of a truly remarkable woman - Nanna, my mother-in-law was more than just family, there's a special kind of grace in the way Nanna lived; quite strength, unwavering support and a heart that knows how to love without condition, she didn't just welcome me into her family, she built a bridge and met me halfway with kindness and warmth.

It's the legacy of life lived with integrity, patience, and purpose. She taught grace, she taught grit with style and flair.

Though Nanna is no longer with us in this world, her spirit lives on in every life she touched. Her legacy of love, grace and generosity will continue to inspire us, guide us and remind us of the beauty of a life well lived.

We miss her dearly, but we carry her with us - always.

Thank you Nanna, for the love you gave. Rest easy.
With love and gratitude - Frankline

Dearest Gloria,

I'm sorry I never got to meet you as much as I would have liked... I remember London 2012 when we were all together watching the Olympics and cheering as Jessica Ennis crossed the finish. The boys in the garden playing, living their best lives, and through them, we lived ours too. It's a memory I will cherish.

Thank you for blessing me with your daughter Judith and the rest of your family in my life. We will all really miss your calls on special occasions and your visits to the UK. You will be in our thoughts and prayers always, and we will miss you dearly.

God bless - David

Precious Memories

















She Is Gone

You can shed tears that she is gone
Or you can smile because she has lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
Or you can be full of the love that you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember her and only that she is gone
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what she would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

Acknowledgement

*The family of **Gloria Nelly Acquah-Andoh** wishes to express our deepest gratitude for the many acts of kindness, heartfelt prayers, and all the love you have shown us during this time of sorrow. We are especially grateful to everyone who assisted with and participated in the celebration of life service for our beloved mother. We will be forever grateful.*

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Rev. Tisha M. Branch, Rev. Daniel Asibuoh-Sarpong, Rev. Angela Redman, and the entire congregation of the First United Methodist Church for leading such a beautiful service. Your words brought us great comfort.

Our sincere thanks also to Eternity Funeral Services LLC, for the their professionalism and for taking care of our dear mum.

None of this would have been possible without all your support and services. Thank you!

Eternity
Funeral Services

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