

*Celebrating the Life of*

*Ekponudim Johnson Umanah*

*Sunrise*

*June 19, 1952*

*Sunset*

*May 11, 2015*



*Friday, May 22, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.*

**WOODY "HOME FOR SERVICES"**

163 Oakwood Avenue  
Orange, New Jersey 07050

*Pastor James Timbilla, Officiating*

## *Obituary*

**Ekponudim Johnson Umanah** was the first of five children born to the late Elder Johnson Akpan Umanah, a Qua Iboe (Methodist) minister, and Mrs. Ibanni Johnson Umanah, in Nto Okon, Ukanafun LGA, Nigeria on June 19, 1952. He received his early education ...

Ekponudim accepted Christ at an early age at the Qua Iboe Church in Nto Okon, which was founded by his father in 1958. He served there as a choir member, a member of the youth department, and a deacon for over 25 years. He was immersed at a young age in the Christian community that would become his lifelong support.

Ekponudim was a diligent worker from early adulthood and worked throughout Eastern Nigeria. He was an educator at heart and taught at Central School in Ukanafun, and another high school in River State. He also worked as a businessman in Cross River prior to relocating to the United States in the mid-1980's.

Ekponudim married his best friend, Ime Wilson Udomisor, on December 20, 1972 in Nto Okon, Ukanafun, Nigeria and was blessed with a loving family of three boys -- two of whom preceded him in death -- and one girl. Ekponudim helped raise his four children with patience, discipline, and humility. From the very beginning, he dedicated his children to God and encouraged them to explore the beauty of the Gospels.

Ekponudim's love of education brought him to the University of Central Oklahoma, in Edmund, Oklahoma where he graduated with BS and MS degrees in Business. He later moved to New Jersey in 1990 and in 1994 he began attending the Apostolic Faith Mission in Brooklyn, NY, he was a saved Christian and he served faithfully as an adult choir member, usher, and member of the nursing home ministry for many years. In 2013, he began to worship closer to home with the saints at the Apostolic Faith Church in Teaneck, NJ.

Ekponudim worked for the City of New York as a case manager in Human Resources Administration for over 15 years.

Ekponudim was not a mere Christian by name, but a practicing Christian. He served God with all his mind, heart, and soul. He knew very well that the call to eternity would one day come to him and was mindful of this while he lived. He loved God and treated others with love, respect, and kindness. He was outgoing and friendly, and always had time to answer a question or solve a problem, no matter how small.

Ekponudim entered into eternal peace on Monday, May 11, 2015, at the Bellevue Hospital Center in New York, NY.

Ekponudim is survived by: his wife, Ime E. Umanah; his son, Mfonma Umanah; his daughter, Mbet Umanah-Reyes; his grandchildren: Godswill, Daniel, and Faith Umanah, and Matthew Emefen Reyes; his brother, Ime Johnson; his sisters: Christiana Okon Matthew and Eno Augustine Udom; his daughter-in-law, Nkoyo Umanah; his son-in-law, Christopher Reyes; and a host of other relations and friends. He was preceded in death by one sister, Uwem Emmanuel Okon. Ekponudim is dearly missed by his loved ones but we celebrate the fact that he is at peace with his Savior and Creator.



## *When We All Get To Heaven*

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus, Sing His mercy and His grace;  
In the mansions bright and blessed He'll prepare for us a place.

*Refrain:*

*When we all get to Heaven, What a day of rejoicing that will be!  
When we all see Jesus, We'll sing and shout the victory!*  
While we walk the pilgrim pathway, Clouds will overspread the sky;  
But when trav'ling days are over, Not a shadow, not a sigh.

*(Refrain)*

Let us then be true and faithful, Trusting, serving every day;  
Just one glimpse of Him in glory Will the toils of life repay.

*(Refrain)*

## *We'll Understand It Better By and By*

We are often tossed and driven on the restless sea of time;  
Somber skies and howling tempests oft succeed a bright sunshine;  
In that land of perfect day, when the mists are rolled away,  
We will understand it better by and by.

*Refrain:*

*By and by when the morning comes,  
When the saints of God are gathered home,  
We'll tell the story how we've overcome;  
For we'll understand it better by and by.*

Trials dark on every hand, and we cannot understand  
All the ways that God would lead us to that blessed Promised Land;  
but He guides us with his eye, and we'll follow till we die,  
For we'll understand it better by and by.

*(Refrain)*



## *Until Then*

My heart can sing when I pause to remember, A heartache here is but a stepping stone  
Along a trail that's winding always upward, This troubled world is not my final home.

*Refrain:*

*But until then my heart will go on singing,  
Until then with joy I'll carry on,  
Until the day my eyes behold the city,  
Until the day God calls me home.*

The things of earth will dim and lose their value, If we recall they're borrowed for awhile;  
And things of earth that cause the heart to tremble, Remembered there will only bring a smile.

*(Refrain)*

This weary world with all its toil and struggle, May take its toll of misery and strife;  
The soul of man is like a waiting falcon: When it's released, it's destined for the skies.

*(Refrain)*



## *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

*Refrain:*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.  
Jesus loves me he who died, heaven's gate to open wide.  
He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in*

*(Refrain)*

Jesus loves me! He will stay, Close beside me all the way;  
Thou hast bled and died for me, I will henceforth live for Thee.

*(Refrain)*



# *Precious Memories*



## *Tribute*

Oh death, is it true that you have taken our grandpa away from us? Who will call us and speak with us for a long time? Telling us how much you love us and always praying for us? It was an exciting experience when you came last year to see us. We were happy to see you for the first time and you promised to come back soon but now death has snatched you away without any information. You cared, provided food and clothes for us. We really enjoyed your stay with us. We will miss you dearly. Good bye grandpa.

**Your grandchildren- Godswill, Daniel, and Faith Mfonma Umanah**



# *Order of Service*

*Organ Prelude*

*Sweet By and By (S.F. Bennett) Flute Solo*  
*Going Home (Bill & Gloria Gaither) AFC Choir, Teaneck*

*Invocation*

*Congregational Singing*  
*“When We All Get To Heaven”*  
*“We’ll Understand It Better By and By”*

*Prayer of Comfort*

*Instrumental Selection: “Jesus Loves Me This I Know”*  
*Scripture Reading: Psalms 23*

*Musical Selection: Bro. Tyrone Dunlap*  
*Scripture Reading: Philippians 1:20-23*

*Expressions of Love*  
*Brooklyn, Teaneck, Family*

*Musical Selection: “Until Then”*

*Obituary: Sis. Ofonime Udo*

*Vocal Solo: When They Ring the Golden Bells (Dion De Marbelle)*

*Eulogy*  
*Pastor James Timbilla*  
*The Apostolic Faith Church, Teaneck, NJ.*

*Recessional*  
*Clergy and Family*

## **Interment**

*Rosedale Cemetery*  
*Orange, New Jersey*

## **Repast**

*Following the Interment family and friends*  
*are invited for a repast at the Ramada Inn*  
*120 Evergreen Place, • East Orange, New Jersey 07018*



## *Acknowledgement*

*The family of the late **Ekponudim J. Umanah** wishes to express our sincere and profound gratitude to all for the love, prayers, and acts of kindness shown during our time of bereavement. A special thanks goes to our Apostolic Faith Church family. May the good Lord bless you abundantly and grant you journey mercies back home in Jesus' name. Amen.*

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