

Mwakalinga, Josiah Asangalwisye

(1935–1984)

CHARLES R. MWANSHINGA

Charles R. Mwanshinga, B.A. in theology (the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton, Eldoret Kenya) has served the church since 1994 as a global mission pioneer, literature evangelist, and stewardship director for Southern Highlands Conference. Currently, he serves as a frontline pastor in Lake Tanganyika Field in Southern Tanzania Union Mission. He is married to Manael Nyika and they have three sons.

Josiah Asangalwisye Mwakalinga was a front-line pastor, church planter, educator, treasurer, and administrator in Tanzania.

Early Life

Josiah Asangalwisye Mwakalinga was born in 1935 in Lupando, Masoko Rungwe, Mbeya Tanzania. Both his parents, Asangalwisye Mwakalinga and his wife, were natives of Masoko Mbeya. The parents were not Adventist believers, but his uncle, Tito Mwakalinga was, having received the Adventist message when he lived in Mwanza. He resigned from his work as a soldier and returned home to Mbeya where he shared the message with Josiah Mwakalinga, who then accepted it.¹

Josiah Mwakalinga was the first born of the six children of his parents. As first born, he lived an exemplary life that built a firm foundation of belief in God for other members in the family.²

Education

Josiah Asangalwisye Mwakalinga acquired his primary education at Bunyangomale Primary School-Suji Middle School up to class four. He also went to Ikizu for a teacher training course for one year. While at Ikizu, he took an accounting course at the same college for two years, completing it in 1956. He worked as a school teacher for a few years and then decided to attend Bugema Adventist College for a two-year ministerial course, which ran from 1964 to 1966.³ His academic achievements challenged young ministers of his day, such as Pastor L. Mwamakamba, and Pastor Mwambalangania, who were encouraged to go for further studies as a result of his inspiration. At that time, the Church in Africa had few Africans with degrees in education.⁴

Marriage and Family

Pastor Josiah Mwakalinga married Essah Hamsole Mwanyilu on February 24, 1960, and they served together as a team in ministry. God blessed them with seven children, one boy and six

girls: Albetina, Tukumbuke, Agness, Asangalwisye, Tupokigwe, Bupe, and Iganile. Four of the children are still living,⁵ as is their mother, Essah Mwakalinga. Their daughter Agnes and her husband work at the East-Central Tanzania Conference as office secretary and youth director, respectively.

Ministry

Pastor Josiah Asangalwisye Mwakalinga joined the ministry after receiving a call in 1960 to work as treasurer in the new territory of Busegwe, where the Church had sent him, along with a white missionary, to open the work there. He worked as secretary/treasurer of Bupandagila Field from 1961 to 1962, after which he went to school. From 1967 to 1971 he worked at Bupandagila as director of the youth department. From 1972 to 1975, he was youth director in Morogoro in the Tanzania General Field. From 1975 to 1976 he worked as a frontline pastor. From 1976 to 1977, Pastor Josiah Asangalwisye was the publishing department director. From 1977 to 1981 he went to Dar es Salaam as a frontline pastor. From 1981 to 1984 he worked in Dodoma as a frontline pastor. From Dodoma he went to Mbeya in the same capacity.⁶

Later Years and Legacy

In 1972, while serving as a frontline pastor in Dodoma, Pastor Mwakalinga contracted liver fever. His church and family took him to hospitals such as Tabora Hospital, Lugalo Hospital-Dar es Salaam, Dodoma Hospital, and Mbeya and Makandana Hospital; but they were not able to help him. He died in 1984 and was buried at Bunyangomale-Masoko, Tukuyu Mbeya.⁷

Pastor Josiah Mwakalinga is remembered for being committed to evangelism and church planting.⁸

Source

“Josiah Asangalwisye Mwakalinga (1960–1984).” Service record. Southern Highlands Conference archives, Mbeya, Tanzania.

NOTES

1. Emmanuel Mwakalinga, telephone interview by author, February 19, 2020.
2. Essah Hamsole Mwanyilu, interview by author, Morogoro Misufini, February 19, 2020.
3. Ibid.

4. Ibid.
 5. Emmanuel Mwakalinga, interview by author, Misufini Morogoro on February 19, 2020.
 6. Southern Highlands Conference, Service Record for Pastor Josiah Asangalwisye Mwakalinga (1960–1984).
 7. Agnes Mwakalinga telephone interview by author, February 19, 2020.
 8. Lupakisyo Mwakasweswe, interview by author, Morogoro Misufini, February 19, 2020.
-

encyclopedia.adventist.org is an official website of the [Seventh-day Adventist World Church](#)

© 2020 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists 12501 Old Columbia Pike Silver Spring , MD 20904 USA 301-680-6000