

ANC pays tribute to Mavis Matladi

2011-12-05 14:07



Johannesburg –

The East Central Synod of Wisconsin along with the Synod's Companion Synod Task Force has expressed its sympathy to the family of Mrs. Mavis Matladi, 53, who died at Milpark Hospital in Johannesburg on Friday morning, December 9, and who was a member of Mosweu Lutheran Congregation which is matched with Calvary Lutheran, Merrill. Her funeral is Friday, December 16. She had been admitted to the hospital on November 12 with breathing problems.

Mrs. Matladi and her husband, Jake, were passionate about our East Central Synod of Wisconsin's companion relationship with the Western Diocese. Jake was a leader in receiving visitors from Grace Lutheran Church, Tomahawk in 2006. Both had planned to come in 2007 with the delegation from Lekubu Lutheran Parish and the Madikwe Circuit when government duties prevented her, in 2008 Jake's Visa was denied after all preparations had been made. "This is a great loss to me," Jake asserted in the phone call expressing our Synod's condolences to him, "but you will still see me in June. I am still coming."

At the time of her death, Mrs. Matladi was the President of the United Christian Democratic Party (UCDP) in South Africa and a Member of Parliament representing UCDP. She had been a Member of the North West Provincial Legislature until the 2009 elections when she joined the National Assembly. She also served as Chair of SCOPA in the North West Provincial Legislature and the Pan-African Parliament's Women Caucus.

Under the auspices of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), the Women's Platform for Action in Africa (WPAA) emphasized the urgent need for better female representation at national levels, where women can actively take part in decisions to prevent war and mediate conflict. A resolution to foster women's political participation in the domain of peacekeeping and conflict management was accepted at the 2011 Women's Platform for Action in Africa meeting.

She was elected as the UCDP's leader in January after the expulsion of its founder [Lucas Mangope](#), who governed Bophuthatswana from 1977 until 1994, when the homelands were scrapped. The United Christian Democratic Party (UCDP) is one of the opposition parties to the ANC which is the major party in South Africa. While the ANC, African National Congress, was the major force in leading South Africa out of apartheid it had become rampant with cronyism and corruption, and Matladi was a strong voice of opposition.

On Monday the ANC released a statement that the late United Christian Democratic Party (UCDP) leader Mavis Matladi was passionate about serving her party and displayed enormous commitment to her work. "She will be remembered for her contribution to the campaign for the restoration of moral and ethical values in our society," the office of the chief whip said. "[We extend our] heartfelt condolences and sympathy to her family, friends, and colleagues."

Both the Minister and Deputy Minister of Women, Children and People with Disabilities, Ms Lulu Xingwana and Ms Henrietta Bogopane-Zulu, received the news of the passing away of Ms Mavis Matladi with a deep sense of shock, pain and sadness. "On behalf of the department, we wish to convey our deepest condolences to her family and colleagues. Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult and painful time. Ms Matladi was a true patriot who loved her country and its people. We will remember her as a true servant who served her people and party with dignity, distinction and loyalty. Her name will certainly be mentioned alongside some of the distinguished women leaders of our country who passed away in service of their people. Through her own exemplary conduct and leadership, she became an inspiration to many women. Her family, friends and colleagues can take solace from the fact that she leaves behind a proud legacy of commitment and patriotism."