

CORNERSTONE DBL BIBLE INSTITUTE

PROFESSORIAL CITATION



BISHOP MPELI
MWAISUMBE

In Honour of His Conferment as Professor

13 NOVEMBER 2026

Honourable Regional Commissioner,
our Guest of Honour,
Distinguished Chairperson of the Ceremony,
The Leadership of Cornerstone BDL Bible Institute,
Members of the Academic Community,
Religious and Government Leaders,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.



It is my honour to present, before our Guest of Honour and this distinguished gathering, the citation of Bishop Dr Mpeli James Mwaisumbe—a minister of the Gospel, educator, spiritual leader, founder of Christian and educational institutions, and dedicated caregiver to vulnerable children.

His life and ministry demonstrate how education, faith, and practical service can come together to address the needs of individuals and communities. Throughout his journey, he has devoted himself to preaching the Gospel, preparing leaders, caring for children, advancing education, and establishing institutions that serve society.

Personal Background and Family

Bishop Dr Mpeli James Mwaisumbe was born on 9 May 1969 in Simike, Mbeya, Tanzania.

He is married to Pastor Neema Mpeli Mwaisumbe, his companion in family life and committed partner in ministry. They are blessed with five children: Beltha Mpeli, Catherine Mpeli, Gwamaka Mpeli, Samweli Mpeli, and Kim Mpeli.

Their partnership has played a central role in establishing and developing ministries that combine spiritual nurture with practical care for people in need.

Education and Preparation for Leadership

Bishop Dr Mwaisumbe began his primary education at Mbalizi Road Primary School before transferring to Patandi Primary School in Arusha. From 1984 to 1987, he attended Sangu Secondary School.

Between 1987 and 1988, he undertook training in storekeeping at an accountancy college in Mbeya. Following this training, he secured employment in the accounts department of the Mbeya Regional Trading Company, commonly known as RTC.

After responding to the call to Christian ministry, he pursued further academic preparation in theology, ministry, leadership, and management.

From 1991 to 1995, he studied at the International Baptist Theological Seminary of Eastern Africa in Arusha, where he completed a Diploma in Theology.

Between 2002 and 2004, he continued his studies at Mount Meru University and was awarded a Bachelor of Ministry.

In 2008, he completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Church Leadership and Management at Tumaini University in Iringa.

From 2009 to 2010, he pursued further studies at the same university and was awarded a Master of Business Administration.

He was subsequently awarded a Doctor of Philosophy degree by Japan Bible Institute.

His educational journey reflects a sustained commitment to learning and to applying theological understanding, leadership principles, and management knowledge in the service of the Church and society.



Calling and Ministerial Journey



The year 1990 marked a significant turning point in his life when he responded to the call to pastoral ministry. Before this, he had served in youth ministry. He subsequently left his employment at RTC to devote himself to Christian service.

On 30 July 1995, he and his wife were entrusted with the pastoral care of Upendo Baptist Church in Mbeya. At that time, the congregation had twenty-five active members.

Within this setting, they developed a ministry that brought together the proclamation of the Gospel and practical expressions of Christian love.

Recognising the needs of orphans and other vulnerable children, they established a preschool ministry and began providing meals for between twenty and twenty-five children, working alongside the local leadership in Mabatini.

They also initiated a sewing ministry for women in Mabatini Ward. This initiative combined spiritual encouragement with practical skills that could support livelihoods and strengthen families.

As their ministry expanded, they extended their evangelistic work to Iwala Village, where they preached the Gospel and established a Baptist church.

Their ministry also took them to Mbeya, Kyela, Dar es Salaam, Irembo, Sumbawanga, Ileje, Chunya, Tukuyu, and other communities.

Their responsibilities included preaching, teaching, baptising believers, officiating weddings, blessing children, and teaching in pastoral training colleges.

Throughout this journey, Bishop Dr Mwaisumbe worked with leaders and believers from different Christian denominations, recognising the importance of cooperation in advancing the Gospel and serving communities.

Theological Education and Children's Ministry

In 2002, Bishop Dr Mwaisumbe undertook a new responsibility that brought him and his family to Iringa, where he led the office responsible for Bible schools and Theological Education by Extension, known as ETE.

This responsibility expanded his contribution to the preparation of Christian ministers and the strengthening of theological education.

While in Iringa, he and his wife also began serving at Kidete Church, approximately sixteen kilometres from where they were living.

There, they encountered around fifty children who were orphaned or living in vulnerable circumstances. In response, they established another preschool and childcare ministry.

Later, their encounters with children living on the streets of Iringa brought a further dimension to their calling. They recognised the need for a safe home where children could receive care, protection, and opportunities to build their futures.

In 2004, they established Daily Bread Life Children's Home.

Through cooperation with partners from the United States who shared a similar vision, they developed a ministry providing shelter, education, food, healthcare, and spiritual nurture.

This work reflects leadership that recognises human needs and takes practical steps to address them. It also demonstrates how sustained care for children can create hope and contribute to the wellbeing of families and communities.



Institutional Development and Community Contribution

Bishop Dr Mwaisumbe is the founder of Acts Fellowship Church Tanzania and Daily Life Ministry Tanzania, as well as the Daily Bread Life Children's Home ministries in Iringa and Nzihi.

He is also the founder of Bread of Life Secondary School and Patmo FM Radio.

Through these institutions, he has contributed to Christian ministry, childcare, education, and communication. Their establishment reflects his commitment to translating vision into organised and continuing service.

Writing and the Nurture of the Church

In his writing, Bishop Dr Mwaisumbe addresses matters affecting the spiritual wellbeing and relationships of the Church.

His manuscript, "Mafarakano Makanisani," meaning "Divisions in Churches," examines the challenges of division and highlights the importance of repentance, forgiveness, humility, and unity among believers.

Through this work, he encourages church leaders and members to reflect on their responsibility to nurture Christian communities grounded in love, holiness, and mutual care.

His writing extends his teaching ministry by inviting readers to consider how faith should shape relationships, leadership, and accountability within the Church.

Alongside his ministerial responsibilities, he has participated in business leadership as a director of several companies, including Masoko Tours and Traveling Agency, Java Professional Company Limited, and Mpefolo Security Company Limited.

These responsibilities bring together experience in ministry, organisational management, and entrepreneurship.





Presentation for Professorial Conferment

Honourable Regional Commissioner, our Guest of Honour,
Distinguished Chairperson of the Ceremony,
The Leadership of Cornerstone BDL Bible Institute,
Members of the Academic Community,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

This citation presents a life journey that has brought together
learning, teaching, leadership, and service.

From youth ministry to pastoral leadership; from congregational care
to the preparation of ministers; and from supporting a small group
of vulnerable children to establishing institutions for childcare and
education, Bishop Dr Mpeli James Mwaisumbe has demonstrated
a sustained commitment to using his knowledge and experience for
the benefit of others.

His contribution spans Christian ministry, theological education,
leadership development, the care of vulnerable children, and the
establishment of institutions serving society.

In recognition of his educational journey, leadership experience, and
contribution to the Church and the wider community, it is my honour
to present Bishop Dr Mpeli James Mwaisumbe to the duly constituted
authority of Cornerstone BDL Bible Institute for professorial conferment,
in accordance with the Institute's procedures and formal decision.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in congratulating Bishop Dr Mpeli
James Mwaisumbe on this significant milestone in his journey of
education, leadership, and service.

Thank you.

SHUKRANI

WITH GRATITUDE

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our Guest of Honour, the leadership of Cornerstone BDL Bible Institute, family, friends, fellow ministers, graduates and all distinguished guests who joined us for this graduation and professorial conferment ceremony.

Your presence, prayers, encouragement and support have made this milestone even more meaningful.

May God bless you abundantly as we continue to learn, lead and serve.

*Bishop Prof.
Mpeli James Mwaisumbe*

13 NOVEMBER 2026

