

Prayer Dispatch 12.15.17/ Our Ministry While In The US



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In this Prayer Dispatch...

- I. 1_Reconnecting with family (2)
- II. 2a and b_Ministering the Word
- III. 3_Ministering in our church
- IV. 4_Times of spiritual refreshment
- V. 5_Presenting the ministry of GCI
- VI. 6_Continuing to train
- VII. 7_Appointments with destiny
- VIII. 8_EI and GCI Office
- IX. 9_EI's Personal Ministry
- X. Prayer Requests: As you pray, please allow the accompanying passage from the Word of God to guide your prayers:

2 Corinthians 1:11 "you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many."

A. Please pray for us as we prepare to depart for Russia.

Psalms 67:1-2

- God be gracious to us and bless us,*
- and cause His face to shine upon us-- .*
- That Thy way may be known on the earth,*
- Thy salvation among all nations.*

B. We are raising finances, not for personal gain but for the proclamation of the Gospel and the building up of the Church. Please ask God to bless these efforts.

Psalms 67:6-7

- The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us.*
- God blesses us, that all the ends of the earth may fear Him.*

C. The doors to Russia remain open. Entreat the Lord of the harvest to send us out into these fields.

Luke 10:2-4

- And He was saying to them, " The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest .*
- 3 "Go; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.*

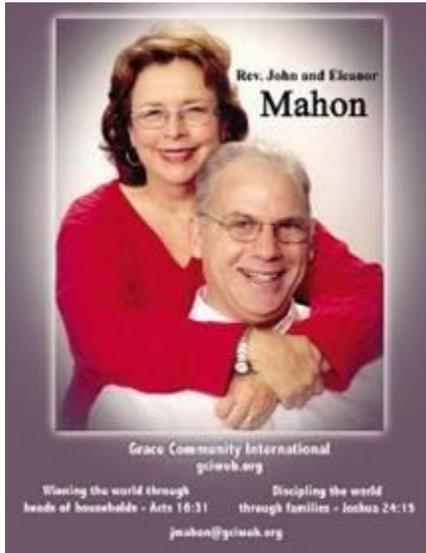
Isaiah 6:8

- Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"*

D. That God would bless the ministry materially, that we might, in turn, bless those to whom we minister.

Luke 6:38

- ❑ 38 "Give , and it will be given to you.
- ❑ They will pour into your lap a good measure – pressed down, shaken together, and running over.
- ❑ For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."



Dear Prayer Warriors,

Frequently we are asked, "What does your ministry look like in the US, while you are preparing to depart for the next Macedonian call?" I hope these next three dispatches will give you a glimpse into our US ministry. Of course, one of the primary things which occupy us during this time is to prepare for our next mission trip. In addition to that you will find us...

(Note: Each point below corresponds with an accompanying photo)

1_Reconnecting with family



This has been especially meaningful this fall, as our daughter Megan became engaged to a wonderful Christian man who attends her church. They are both leaders in the

Adult Singles class at First Baptist Church here in Houston. It is also a time to catch up with our four children and nine grandchildren. Pictured is our visit to see our daughter Lizzy and her family in Champaign, IL. Her husband Joe is finishing up his PhD and is on the preaching and teaching rotation of their church.

2a and b Ministering the Word



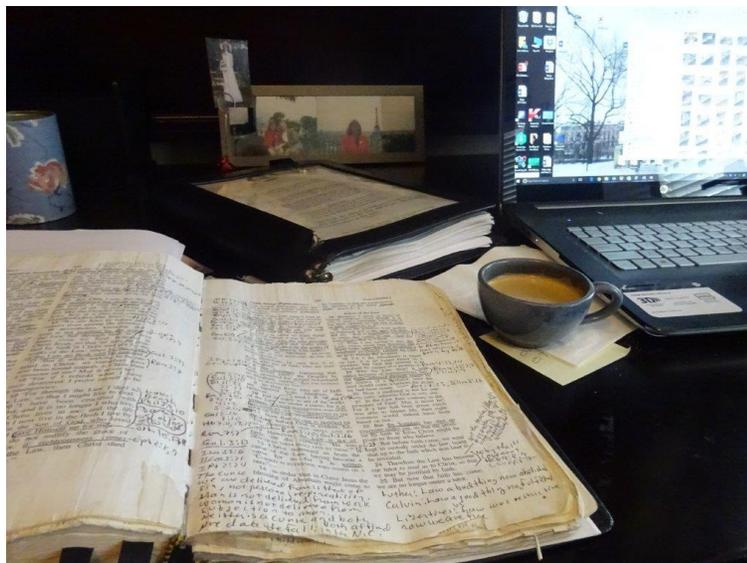
During our time in the US, I can still be found ministering the Word of God on Sundays in Reformed Presbyterian, Baptist and Bible churches throughout Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana.

3_Ministering in our church



I also am active in our local church. I have been teaching a series on the “What Abouts...”--What about children who die young, What about other religions, etc. This Sunday I will be teaching on the subject, “What About The Virgin Birth?”

4_Times of spiritual refreshment



When at home, it is also a time of intensive prayer and Bible study. These times of spiritual refreshment and renewal are important as I often teach or preach as many as 20 times a week while on the mission field.

5_Presenting the ministry of GCI



One my responsibilities is to raise up prayer and support for our ministry. We do not charge for any conferences or materials while on the mission field. Those to whom we minister on foreign soils are encouraged to give to their churches and we do not accept any honorariums. As a result, we rely upon the faith, prayers and generosity of those here in the US to make our ministry in the harvest fields of the world possible.

6_Continuing to train



There are a number of men who desire to go deeper in the Word of God and I meet with them weekly during their lunch hour or before work. It is a privilege to invest in their lives. Here I am meeting with Brian Baca. You may remember Brian--he was a good friend of my son Sam as fellow students at the University of Texas. Brian has been on mission trips with me to Belarus and has hosted our Family Discipleship Seminar at his church. This fall Brian and I met weekly memorizing and studying Ephesians 5:22-33.

7_Appointments with destiny



We keep bottled water, New Testaments in English and Spanish, Four Spiritual Laws in English and Spanish, as well as books such as *Evidence Demands A Verdict* or *More Than A Carpenter* by Josh McDowell. Anyone who comes to our front door receives these. One delivery man said, "May I take more, people in the break room read them and are always asking to take them home for their families?" A repairman said, "I love to read but cannot afford to buy books, thank you so much." A fast-food delivery man said, "I have heard of the New Testament but never read one, I will take it home and read it cover to cover."

8_El and GCI Office



During the time in the US, Eleanor logs countless hours in the GCI Office. How I praise God for a wife who is truly a helpmate in the ministry.

9_El's Personal Ministry



In addition to this there is Eleanor's teaching ministry. While in the US she is active in teaching women, just as she is on the mission field. God has used Eleanor in a great way in the lives of countless pastor's wives and women in the church. Please do continue to lift up her ministry of the Word.

I close this dispatch, as always, with a deep and abiding thankfulness for your sacrificial and effectual prayers, which empower and drive this ministry ever forward in the cause of Christ.

By His mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1
Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int. -

Please allow me to close this dispatch with a hymn from my prayer notebook that has been especially meaningful to me...

(Psalms 104:33-34 "I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Let my meditation be pleasing to Him; As for me, I shall be glad in the LORD.")

Link to music/tune for this hymn:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X2H_za9b_XU

Alleluia! sing to Jesus! (Page 347 Book of Common Prayer)

Alleluia! sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne.

Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.

Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood.

Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by His blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! He is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;

Though the cloud from sight received Him when the forty days were o'er

Shall our hearts forget His promise, "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! bread of angels, Thou on earth our food, our stay;

Alleluia! here the sinful flee to Thee from day to day:

Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

William Chatterton Dix 1837 - 1898 Dix' father, a surgeon, wrote a biography of poet Thomas Chatterton, and gave his son his middle name in his honor. Young William attended the Bristol Grammar School. Later, he managed a marine insurance company in Glasgow, Scotland, but his heart was in the poetry of worship. He wrote more than 40 hymns over the course of his life. His works include the much loved Christmas hymn What Child Is This