

Prayer Dispatch 09.16.13 / Eleanor: Sarah, Ruth and Esther Rolled Into One...



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In this Prayer Dispatch – My Darling Eleanor...

- I. Administrator
- II. Conference Speaker / Teacher
- III. Mentor and Example
- IV. Adventurer
- V. Homemaker
- VI. Loving Mother, Devoted Grandmother
- VII. Joy Of My Life & And Hot Date To Boot!!
- VIII. Closing hymn is Eleanor's favorite...
- IX. Prayer Requests: As you minister with us throughout the world through your intercessions 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. El's "life verse" - 1 Peter 5:7 "casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you."
- B. Ministry - this is the passage from which Eleanor teaches. Ask God to empower her speaking and to make the hearers hearts receptive to God's Word

*Titus 2:3-5 Older women likewise are to be...teaching what is good, so that they may encourage the young women*

- to love their husbands,*
- to love their children,*
- to be sensible,*
- pure,*
- workers at home,*
- kind,*
- being subject to their own husbands,*
- so that the word of God will not be dishonored*

- C. That God would honor the sacrifices she is making to be my “helpmate” on the field. Many wives of this age decline to travel with their husbands. Still others are enjoying the fruits of a lifetime of devotion to home, children and church. I praise God for a godly wife who stands by me in my calling but I am ever aware of the great sacrifice she is making. Won’t you please join with me in asking God to honor this sacrifice, even as He has done in the past for godly women such as Sarah, Ruth and Esther...

*Luke 18:28-30*

*28 Peter said, "Behold, we have left our own homes and followed You."*

*29 And He said to them, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,*

*30 who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life."*

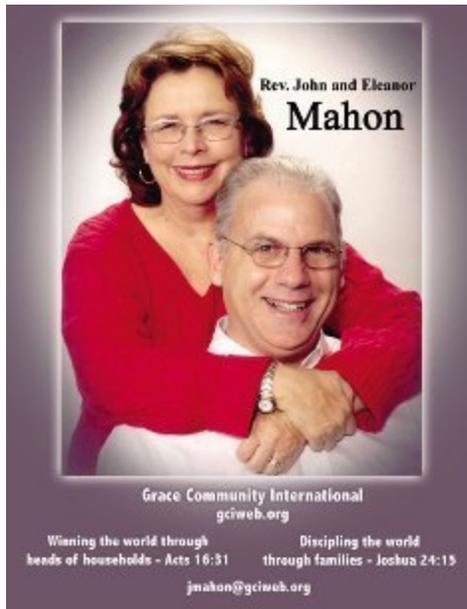
- D. Call upon the Lord to grant Eleanor the physical, emotional and spiritual strength to fulfill the calling God has given her. Countries like Russia, Nigeria, Cameroon, Zambia (to name a few) can be a challenge to young men. The ministry is carried out by us only by the power of your sustaining prayers.

*Isaiah 46:3-4 " Listen to Me... You who have been borne by Me from birth And have been carried from the womb; even to your old age I will be the same, And even to your graying years I will bear you! I have done it, and I will carry you; And I will bear you and I will deliver you."*

- E. That God would bless Eleanor materially. It is my observation that the greatest burden the wives and children of missionaries face is that of financial resources. When these are in place the majority of burdens are lifted from them. This is my responsibility - to faithfully raise our support so that Eleanor may fulfill her role as missionary wife, helpmate and migrant homemaker in safety and security. Pray for me that I would be faithful but also pray for our prayer warriors and support team that they would stand with us not only in prayers but also in the financial support of this ministry.

*3 John 1: 7-8 "For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore we ought to support such men, so that we may be fellow workers with the truth."*

**Philippians 4:14, 17 & 19** *“Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me ...Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account... And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”*



Dear Prayer Warriors,

This Dispatch is dedicated to my loving wife Eleanor. She is Sarah, Ruth and Esther all rolled into one glorious package. I trust that this Dispatch will give you a true picture of both her importance to the GCI worldwide ministry and what a godly and loving person she is.

### **I. Administrator -**

These pictures are an overview of Eleanor's ministry as GCI Office Director and Administrator. She serves in this capacity voluntarily. Whether in airports, Russia, Africa, Asia or in any of the over 25 countries in which we minister Eleanor may be found hard at work...



## II. Conference Speaker / Teacher -

Eleanor's ministry of the Word is centered upon Titus 2:3-5. With the many of the contemporary women speakers now addressing women in terms of mysticism and/or independent spiritual pursuits apart from husband and family Eleanor has realized a vacuum in the teaching of women and is being used by God to help fill this void.



**III. Mentor and Example -**  
The one on one time Eleanor spends with the wives of pastors and ministers is an important aspect of her ministry.



#### IV. Adventurer -

Eleanor, like Sarah is an adventurer. Any wife of a missionary is this by default. Eleanor has traveled with me in over 25 countries of the world - sleeping in beds, on couches and sometimes on the floor. During this time her contact with her children is by computer, texting and on a good day SKYPE. I know Christian women whose husbands have had job or ministry opportunity which entailed a move to another city in the same state who refused to do this, denying the husband a wonderful opportunity. I praise God for a wife who views her ministry as that of help-mate and it is this godly attitude which makes my ministry possible.







## V. Homemaker -

At an age when most women are finally realizing their “dream kitchen” Eleanor as often as not finds herself in a kitchen the size of some bathrooms.



## VI. Loving Mother & Devoted Grandmother -

Here is a collage of pictures of Eleanor with her children and grandchildren. Renny Austin, a good friend, once exhorted me to make sure that after a lifetime of devotion and sacrifice that Eleanor not be denied the fruits of this ministry to her family. When in the US I seek to make it a priority and the smile on Eleanor’s face in each photo reveals the joy she feels. **Becca**



Sam



Megan



Liz



**Family Gatherings** - I am humbled by the priority that our children give to being in our home and having Eleanor in their homes when we are in the country.



## VII. Joy Of My Life & And Hot Date To Boot!! -

Well what can I say, I married a hottie!! This is a collage of pictures of dates with Eleanor both here in the US and abroad. I began the tradition of "Date Night" while we were engaged and it has been going on all 38 years of our marriage. If you commit to a weekly Date Night you will by the nature of life go out two or three times a month. If you commit to twice a month, you will go out once a month. If it is once a month it will be a few times a year. If it is not a line item on your calendar, well it just won't happen. With a wife as godly, as sweet and as good looking as Eleanor, you can understand why I want to be alone on a date with her at least once a week.





I close this email, 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 Eleanor's favorite hymn. This seems only appropriate since this dispatch is dedicated to her and her selfless service to the ...  
*(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: <http://nethymnal.org/htm/d/a/daybyday.htm>

## Day By Day

Day by day, and with each passing moment,  
Strength I find, to meet my trials here;  
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,  
I've no cause for worry or for fear.  
He Whose heart is kind beyond all measure  
Gives unto each day what He deems best—  
Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,  
Mingling toil with peace and rest.

*Every day, the Lord Himself is near me  
With a special mercy for each hour;  
All my cares He fain would bear, and cheer me,  
He Whose Name is Counselor and Power;  
The protection of His child and treasure  
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;  
"As thy days, thy strength shall be in measure,"  
This the pledge to me He made.*

Help me then in every tribulation  
So to trust Thy promises, O Lord,  
That I lose not faith's sweet consolation  
Offered me within Thy holy Word.  
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,  
Ever to take, as from a father's hand,  
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,  
Till I reach the promised land.

Karolina Wilhelmina Sandell-Berg; *Born:* October 3, 1832, in the rectory at Fröderyd, Småland, Sweden; *Died:* July 27, 1903, Stockholm, Sweden.; *Buried:* Solna Cemetery, near Stockholm. Lina was the daughter of Jonas Sandell, pastor of the Lutheran church in Fröderyd. At age 26, she accompanied her father on a boat trip across Lake Vättern to Göteborg, during which he fell overboard and drowned before her eyes. The tragedy profoundly affected Lina and reportedly inspired her to write hymns. Known as the [Fanny Crosby](#) of Sweden, she wrote 650 hymns. She married Stockholm merchant C. O. Berg in 1867, but continued to initial her hymns "L. S." What is missing from the modern praise movement of the 21<sup>st</sup> century are songs of praise to God which spring from tragedy. The ability to worship God, "trusting in my Father's wise bestowment" in the midst of tragedy, even if that tragedy is to watch your earthly father drown before your helpless eyes is a message much needed and a worship much called for in the church today.