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In this Prayer Dispatch...

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- V. Prayer Requests: As you minister with us throughout the world through your intercessions please allow the accompanying passages 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. The Church in Cameroon is under intense spiritual attacks from satan. I am attaching to this dispatch prayer sheets on Spiritual Warfare. Please spend the next week praying over these sheets on behalf of the church in Cameroon – particularly those Baptist and Reformed churches in Yaoundé and Bamenda to whom we ministered.

Matthew 16:15-18

15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

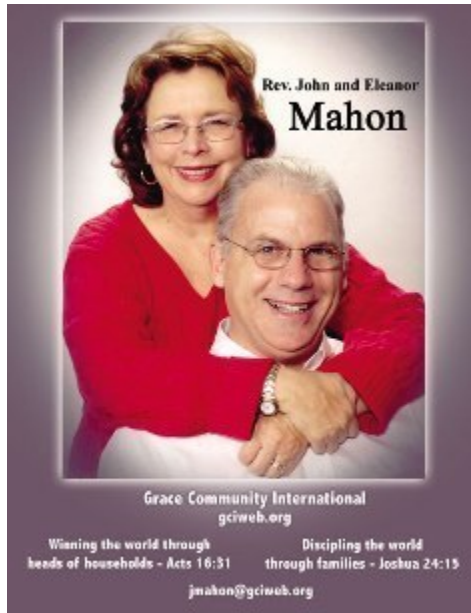
17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

18 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

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

Philippians 4:13-14, 17, 19

- ☐ I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.
- ☐ Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction.
- ☐ 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,

What a privilege it is to be able to build up and bless so many churches throughout the world. In an age when many so called "para-church" ministries are in reality "para-ministry" institutions. GCI remains firmly committed to the building up of local churches and to ministering to their pastors and respective leaders. We do this in a number of ways and our ministry in Cameroon is a good illustration of this.

Resources for the Church

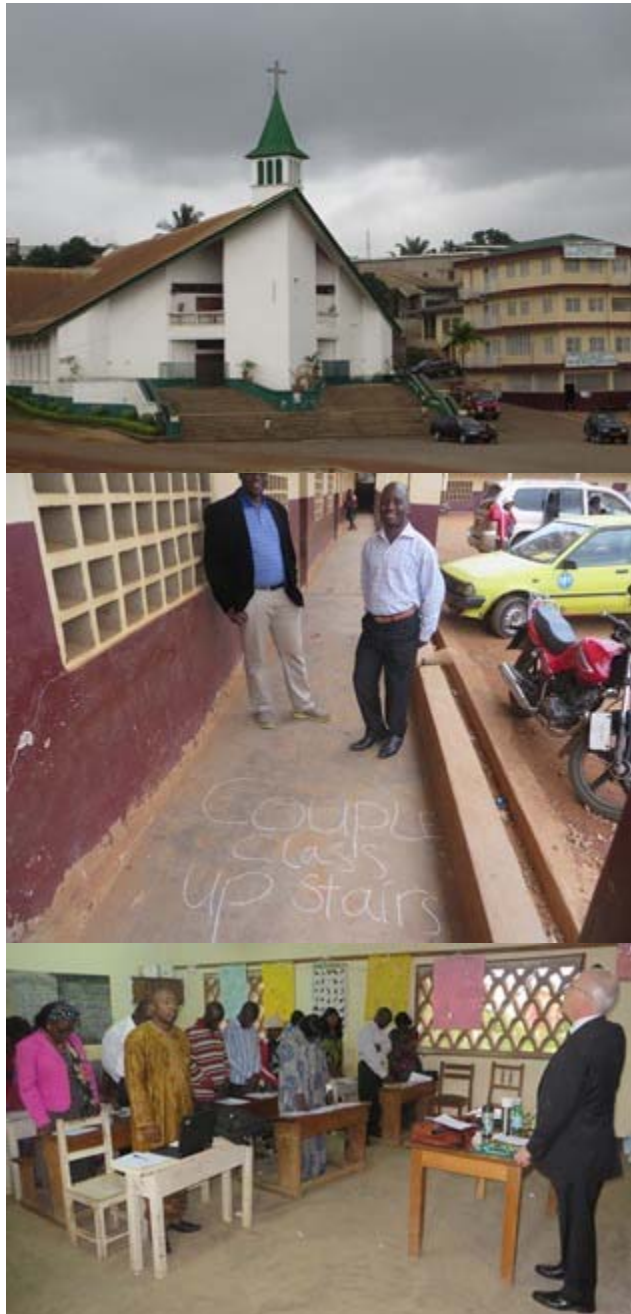


Your faith and gifts make possible our taking Bibles, Bible study aids and Bible reference works to pastors, ministers and student workers. (That is my son Sam making the airport run with us.)



You can see the joy in the faces of the Cameroonian team at receiving our precious cargo. These are not given out haphazardly but go to deserving pastors and ministers who would otherwise go without. Many are receiving leather study Bibles for the first time.

### Building Up the Church Age



In Cameroon it was our privilege to build up and bless many churches. Our first day on the ground was spent ministering in a church. One of the key men in the Navigator ministry (Wilson) is also the Young Married Minister in his church. He had spent the last year taking them through the Marriage Covenant Seminar and I was privileged to do a “Graduation Seminar” for them.

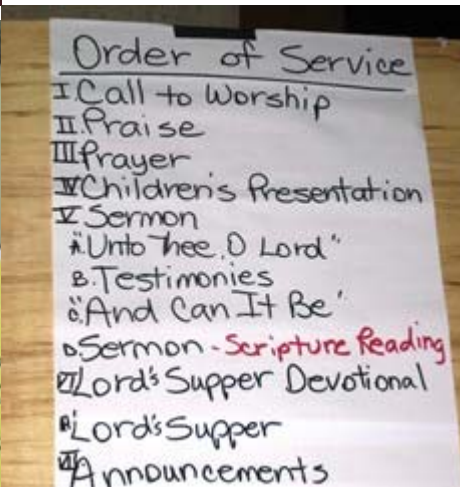
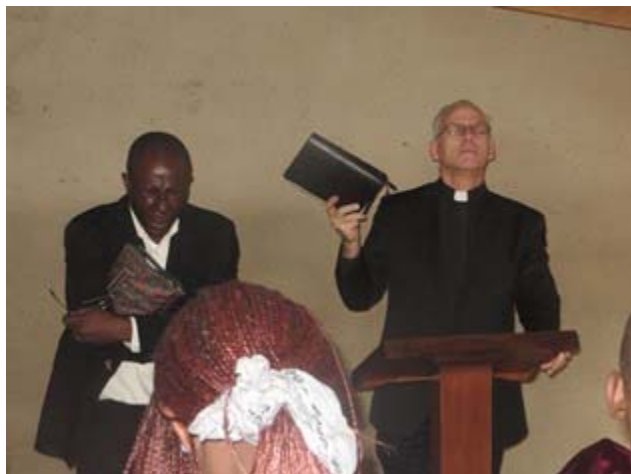


## The Ordinances of the Church



Whether it was participating in the ordination of a minister (pictured left is Taniform Peters), baptizing a couple who are united now in Christ, (I do not “re-baptize”) or performing the Lord’s Supper, as a missionary and minister I am committed to the ordinances of the church. I continue to be both amazed and dismayed at the lackadaisical approach many para-church ministries have to the ordinances of the church. I would encourage any mission board to ask frankly the stand of any missionary or mission organization concerning the ordinances of the church. Not just there “written statement” but the individual views of their regions. I am shocked, for instance, to find that some para-church groups are openly rejecting water baptism in any form. For me this changes them from a para-church ministry to a sect.

## The Centrality of the Church in the Church Age



We ministered in a Francophone Reformed Church, A Baptist Church and more. When speaking on a church conference ground, if there was not opportunity to attend a local worship service then we held one on the grounds. GCI holds to the centrality of the local church in this the Church Age.



The members of our teams are all active church members. From left to right – Kathy Smith serves on the missions board of her church, while her husband Richard is an Elder and adult Sunday School teacher. Dan McCollum teaches adult Sunday School and serves in the Benevolence ministry with his wife Judy. They also minister in their churches Pregnancy Crisis Center. To our right, Taniform Peters is an ordained minister of the Gospel. He and his wife Noella are active in church and I can attest that the Navigator ministry in Cameroon is indeed a “Para-church” ministry, one which blesses and builds up the local churches. Any church mission board or supporter should be able to ask, “How does your para-church ministry specifically build up the local churches in your area” and receive a clear and concise reply.



All our conferences took place in the setting of the local church, Bible College or church conference center. All conferences were attended by pastors, ministers, lay ministers and student workers.



We finished as we began – proclaiming Christ, preaching the holy, eternal, inerrant written Word and building up the Church, Christ's body here on earth.

Ephesians 1:22-23 “And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

I close this e-mail, 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: <http://nethymnal.org/htm/c/h/chofound.htm>

### **The Church's One Foundation**

The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ her Lord,  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From heaven He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her  
And for her life He died.

*She is from every nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth;*



*Her charter of salvation,  
One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy Name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,  
With every grace endued.*

The Church shall never perish!  
Her dear Lord to defend,  
To guide, sustain, and cherish,  
Is with her to the end:  
Though there be those who hate her,  
And false sons in her pale,  
Against both foe or traitor  
She ever shall prevail.

*Though with a scornful wonder  
Men see her sore oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed:  
Yet saints their watch are keeping,  
Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song!*

'Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore;  
Till, with the vision glorious,  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.

*Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won,  
With all her sons and daughters  
Who, by the Master's hand  
Led through the deathly waters,  
Repose in Eden land.*

O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we

Like them, the meek and lowly,  
On high may dwell with Thee:  
There, past the border mountains,  
Where in sweet vales the Bride  
With Thee by living fountains  
Forever shall abide!

Samuel John Stone 1839 – 1900 Stone was educated at the Charterhouse, and at Pembroke College, Oxford (BA 1862, MA 1872). After taking Holy Orders, he became Curate of Windsor in 1862, and of St. Paul's, Hagerstown, 1870. In 1874, he succeeded his father, William Stone, at St. Paul's.