

Prayer Dispatch 11.15.12/ Commitment To The Local Church



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In this Prayer Dispatch...

- I. GCI has an unequivocal commitment to the local church
- II. Our ministry in Russia illustrates this commitment
- III. 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. It is very hard to leave those with whom we minister when we return home. Ask God to bless the churches and build them up in the Word of God.

Acts 20:32 "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

- B. Ask the Lord to bless the churches to whom we minister, that Christ might reign as Lord and be glorified through them.
Ephesians 1:22-23 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

- C. As you pray, ask God to use the ministry of GCI to build up and equip the churches in which we minister.

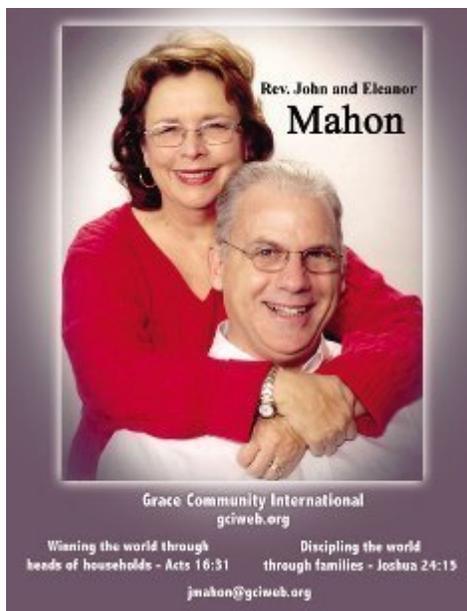
Ephesians 4:11-13 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

D. Call upon the Lord to raise up prayer warriors who will pray earnestly for the pastors and leaders of the churches to whom we minister.

Ephesians 6:18 With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

E. Petition the Lord to grant the churches in Russia peace, that they might be free to grow and expand.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

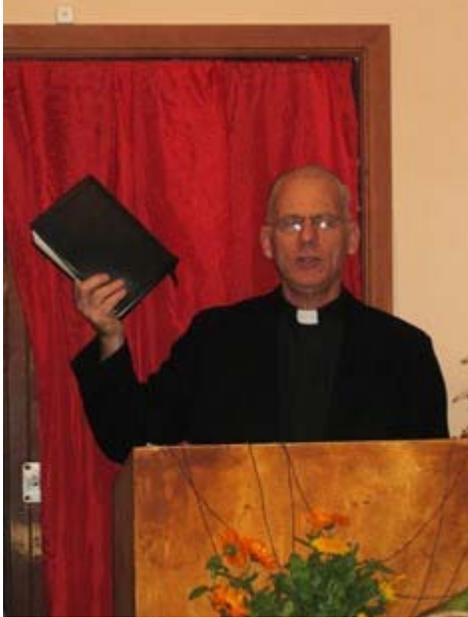


Dear Prayer Warriors,

GCI has an unequivocal commitment to the local church.

The ministry of GCI in Russia, as in all our endeavors, is completely committed to the building up of the local church. As you pray and give to the ministry of GCI, you are supporting a ministry which views itself as being called to build up, expand and bless churches throughout the world. Russia is no exception and it is our privilege to minister and support the church in Russia.

Our ministry in Russia illustrates this commitment.



Pavlosk Baptist Church, The Reformed Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg, The Reformed Presbyterian Church of Tyumen --calling upon the Lord to bless the teaching and preaching of His holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word. Our ministry to the church centers on the Word of God.



Men standing in church, Bible in hand, participating in worship, growing in the Word of God--this is our objective, this is how the church will be built up in Russia.



When you think of the ministry of GCI, think of the church in Tyumen--young believers, gathering together under very trying and difficult circumstances--being encouraged in the faith, grounded in the Word and trained in the basics of personal evangelism, follow-up and discipleship.

If you have a moment, send a short email of encouragement to Pastor Ravil and his wife Ulia in Tyumen, Russia (central Siberia). Their email address is... kunakaevi@yahoo.com. Some of you did this recently and it was a great encouragement to them.

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 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/i/a/iatolord.htm>

I Am Thine, O Lord

I am Thine, O Lord - I have heard Thy voice, And it told Thy love to me;
But I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to Thee.

*Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord, By the power of grace divine;
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope and my will be lost in Thine.*

O the pure delight of a single hour That before Thy throne I spend,
When I kneel in prayer and with Thee my God, I commune as friend with friend.

*There are depths of love that I cannot know Till I cross the narrow sea;
There are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with Thee*

Refrain:

Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord, to the cross where Thou hast died;
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, To Thy precious bleeding side.

Frances Jane Crosby *Born:* March 24, 1820, Putnam County, New York. *Died:* February 12, 1915, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Fanny Crosby was probably the most prolific hymn-ist in history. Though blinded by an incompetent doctor at six weeks of age, she wrote over 8,000 hymns. About her blindness, she said: **"It seemed intended by the blessed providence of God that I should be blind all my life, and I thank him for the dispensation. If perfect earthly sight were offered me tomorrow I would not accept it. I might not have sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been distracted by the beautiful and interesting things about me."** In her lifetime, Fanny Crosby was one of the best known women in the United States. To this day, the vast majority of American hymnals contain her work.