



Cameroon 2007

Report on the Hope Outreach International Ministries
Evangelistic Mission to the Republic of Cameroon,
West Africa



Hope Outreach
International Ministries

Sharing the wonderful hope in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Table of Contents

Introduction: About Hope Outreach International Ministries _____	2
Board of Directors List _____	3
Cameroon 2007 Missionaries _____	4
Part I: The Journey Begins _____	5
Part II: Ministering to Women & Children in Buea _____	8
Part III: Serving Church & State _____	10
Part IV: Ministering to the Incarcerated & Orphans in Yaoundé _____	14
Part V: Wrapping Up, & Heading Home _____	17

Suffer the little children...



Introduction: About Hope Outreach International Ministries

Mission Statement: Hope Outreach International Ministries (HOIM) is a Christian, non-profit organization dedicated to evangelizing the lost through gospel crusades, camps and conferences; empowering orphans, widows and those in need through Christ-centered vocational training; and equipping ministers of the gospel through Christian seminars and resources.

In 2005, HOIM's founder and supporters began conducting annual mission trips to the Republic of Cameroon in West Africa, ministering at orphanages, prisons and higher education campuses, and organizing seminars and conferences for local church and ministry leaders. HOIM was formally launched in March 2007. Following its launch, HOIM created the Solomon Nfor Gwei Awards to provide general operating support to pastors and ministry leaders serving on the frontlines in Cameroon.

As the Lord allows, HOIM's long term plans include the construction of a Pastor's Retreat and Resource Center in Cameroon, the conducting of yearly mission trips, sustained support for three orphanages run by our partners, and sponsorship for people who need vocational and ministerial training.

HOIM was founded by Julius Esunge, a native of Cameroon. Early in his life, Julius accepted God's call to become a minister of the gospel. He ministered within several of Cameroon's churches and para-church organizations before moving to the United States. Julius currently resides in Baton Rouge, Louisiana with his wife Eunice and their son Timothy.

HOIM is currently governed by a six-person Board of Directors comprising professionals in the fields of Science, Medicine, Letters, Fundraising and Business.

Contact Information

Hope Outreach International Ministries
10993 N Harrells Ferry Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
Phone: (225) 272-5432
Fax: (225) 272-6805\
Email: HopeOutreach@gmail.com
Website: www.hopeoutreachinternational.org



**Hope Outreach
International Ministries**

Sharing the wonderful hope in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Board of Directors List

Board Chair

Julius Esunge

Math Department, Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

Executive Director/Treasurer

Kathryn (Katie) Avant

Avant-Garde Consulting Services, Inc.
Baton Rouge, LA

Secretary

Ursula N. Embola

WE ACT for Environmental Justice
New York, NY

Members

Peter Akufongwe, Ph.D.

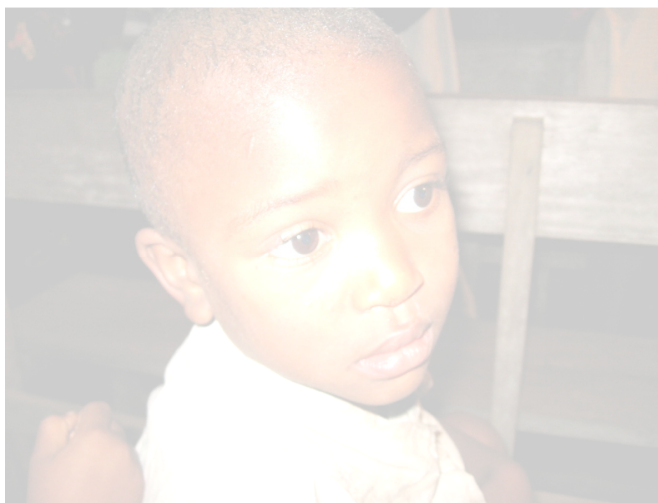
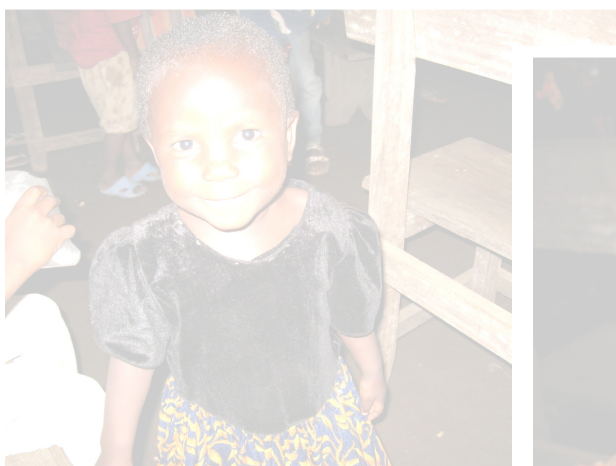
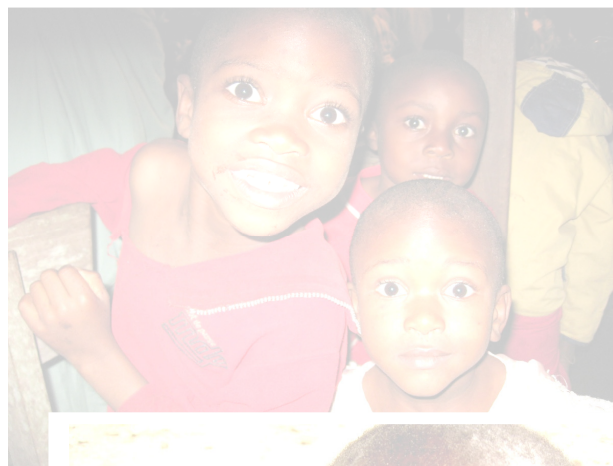
MedImmune, Inc.
Gaithersburg, MD

Alene Casemore

Town and Country Furniture
Baton Rouge, LA

Owendi Ongayi, Ph.D.

Rohm and Haas Electronic Materials LLC
Marlborough, MA



Special thanks are due to Ms. Katie Avant, Ms. Kathryn Redd, and the rest of staff at Avant-Garde Consulting Services who have supported HOIM administratively through its infancy. May the Lord richly bless you all.

Cameroon 2007 Missionaries

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news...

Isaiah 52:7

Alene Casemore

Board Member
Hope Outreach International Ministries

Ann Agbiak

Participant

Doreen Louis Ayo

Participant

Jennie Seals

Participant

Jerrice Prince

Nurse

Jill Barasa

Participant

Julius Esunge

Founder/Chair
Hope Outreach International Ministries

Kangin Louis Ayo

Participant

Kathryn (Katie) Avant

Executive Director/Treasurer
Hope Outreach International Ministries

Sara Louis Ayo

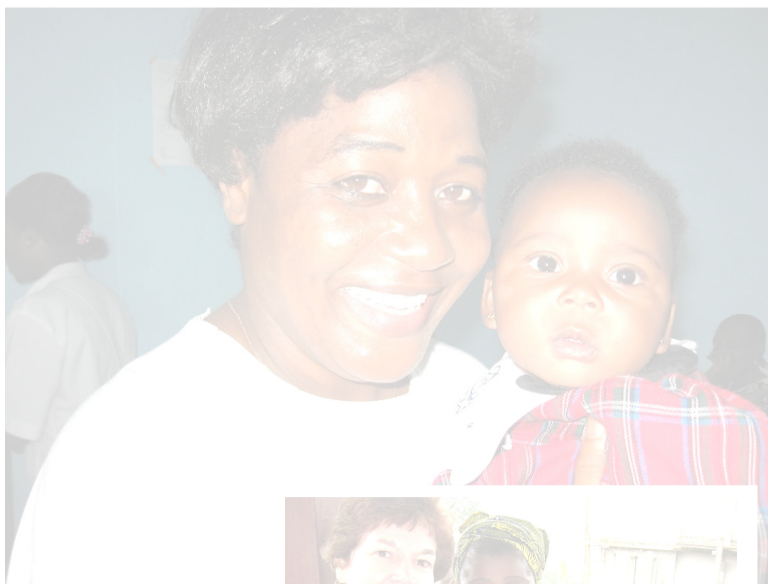
Participant

Simon Tata

Participant

Thomas (Tommy) Oswald

Pharmacist



Acknowledgements

HOIM would like to acknowledge the many individuals both in the United States and in Cameroon who worked tirelessly to make "Cameroon 2007" a reality. There is not enough room in this report to acknowledge each of you by name, not to mention your efforts, prayers, gifts and encouragement. May the Lord God Himself be your exceedingly great reward. On behalf of the people of Cameroon, we thank you.

Part I: The Journey Begins

Monday, July 30, 2007 – Sunday, August 5, 2007



As we began our journey to Cameroon, the entire team was filled with a great sense of gratitude for the Lord's grace, favor and guidance in the planning and execution of this mission trip and the abundant provision He had released upon us. In all, we left the United States with over 70 pieces of luggage, the overwhelming bulk of which were resources for the church on the ground in Cameroon.

The flights from Baton Rouge to Washington's Dulles Airport went well. Upon arriving at Dulles on the night of Monday, July 30th we realized that someone had to spend the night at the airport to watch our luggage. Julius offered to do so while Katie and the other team members retired to a hotel near the airport.

Tuesday's flight was delayed by 12 hours and the team arrived in Ethiopia on Wednesday night, eventually departing for Cameroon on Friday morning and arriving at the Douala International Airport at 3 pm local.

Our first meal in Cameroon was served by Mrs. Beatrice Ndjitcham, owner of the White House Restaurant in Douala. The entire team was treated with great love and care, after which we proceeded to Buea for a good night's rest.

That first night was also the opening night of the gospel crusade in the village of Bonakanda, and the local team directed the first two nights of the meetings so that the team from the United States could settle into the new time zone and prepare for ministry.

On Saturday, August 4 we paid a visit to the HOTPEC Orphanage. (HOTPEC stands for Hephzibah Handicapped and Orphanage Training, Production and Ecstasy Centre.) A total of 65 children, along with the orphanage administrators and Director Mrs. Beatrice Mugri, were all very excited to see us.

The living conditions and overall environment of the orphanage were run down, to

say the least, and we could hardly hold back our tears. "This really gets to me," remarked team member Jerrice Prince while carrying a two-year-old girl with an infected leg.



Jerrice with three of the orphans at HOTPEC.

Nonetheless we were amazed by the passion and love for God that we saw manifested at the orphanage. We could feel it as the children sang a welcome song to us. Despite their conditions, these children demonstrated a strong faith that blessed the team. Julius encouraged the children and the administrators to be committed to the Lord and to serve Him with dedication.

"Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 18:10



Signpost for HOTPEC Orphanage, Mile 15, Buea.

After Katie and Julius' brief meeting with Beatrice, Tommy, Matthias (our driver) and Julius rushed to Douala to pick up Alene and Jennie, whose plane had landed. The entire team then converged on Limbe for a meal at the home of the Embolas (parents of Hope Outreach board member Ursula N. Embola). We were welcomed by a choral group that sang throughout our visit. Julius shared a message in response to one of their songs and led many to faith in the Lord Jesus.

On Sunday, August 5 the team was divided into three groups with Jerrice, Tommy and Julius each leading a group as we celebrated the Lord in various congregations. Jerrice was accompanied by Simon, Kangin and Ann to the Macedonia Baptist Church where she brought greetings. "Sunday is a day of worship, and that

is what we did," said Jerrice. "My group started at the Baptist Church and ended up at the crusade. God opened the doors of Heaven and souls poured in. We experienced a blessing that can only be felt by the heart. We are all well, going wonderfully about the work of the kingdom and being blessed constantly as we watch God at work. The people are wonderful and are spoiling us all."

Simon spoke at the Sunday night crusade meeting held under a large tent and Julius led inquirers in a prayer of commitment and surrender to the Lord Jesus, following which counselors from local churches spoke with each inquirer. Inquirers attended follow-up meetings every day one hour before the crusade would begin. The response to the message was phenomenal.

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11



The meeting tent at the Bonakanda Field in Buea

In between the morning services and the After the evening crusade, the team paid a visit to the elders of Bonakanda village. Alene describes that meeting.

Alene: Visiting the Bonakanda Village Elders

“It was very obvious that much work had been done to prepare for the week-long crusade in Bonakanda. As we entered the village to greet the village chief, we were welcomed by a banner that hung conspicuously over the dirt road.

“The purpose of this Sunday afternoon visit was to introduce ourselves to the village chief and to ask for his blessing on the crusade meetings.

“We were all ushered into the chief's home. It was a large dirt-floored room – lit only by natural lighting. Chairs were placed around the walls as we all sat facing a large wooden table. There was definitely a sense of great expectation as to what the Lord would do.

“Julius opened with a warm native welcome chant and soon the villagers all joined in. It seemed they were especially pleased by his greeting and presence. Julius explained the purpose of the meeting, and thanked the elders for welcoming us to hold the crusade in Bonakanda. He introduced the Hope Outreach team as bags of sugar, flour and other supplies were carried in and placed in the center of the room. The gifts would serve as a reminder to the village of God's blessings upon His children, and His desire to bless the village through the crusade.

“The village chief thanked us for bringing the crusade to Bonakanda. His wife also greeted the group while another woman from the village thanked us for coming and led the group in an African song/dance of thanksgiving. The meeting ended with a closing prayer.”



Meeting with the Bonakanda Village Council.

Jennie: My First Two Days in Cameroon

“I am amazed and startled at the awesome expression of God's love to all of us these past couple of days. He's taken care of, poured into and blessed us as 'Kids of the King!' The soft, teachable hearts of the people here are such an encouragement and an answer to our prayers. Their servant-heartedness is amazing! We want for nothing and have more than we need. Great food, great worship, great fellowship and a strong feeling that we have connected with family. Praise God! I'm the blessed one.”



Outreach banner at the entrance of Bonakanda Village.

Part II: Ministering to Women & Children in Buea

Monday, August 6, 2007 – Wednesday, August 8, 2007



Our second and busiest week in Cameroon began with clear assignments for each team member. Jerrice and Tommy spent each working day attending to the medical needs of the Bonakanda villagers. Katie, Simon and the kids ran a Vacation Bible School (VBS) at the HOTPEC orphanage. And Jennie and Alene ministered at morning and evening women's conferences organized by the Apostolic Church in Cameroon. Julius and the local team focused on ministering in Bonakanda.



Doreen and Sara help the kids with their drawing.

Part of the crew serving the orphans devoted time to shop for supplies for the orphanage, purchasing items based on the needs of the children and the donations received prior to our trip. In this regard, Simon said the following about their shopping spree: "We spent a lot of time bargaining down the price of 50 mosquito nets, 50 blankets, 20 cutlasses and 15 buckets. It was a tiring day for most of us, but not for Ms. Katie, who *never* gets tired!"

Alene: The Women's Conference

"Jennie and I were invited to attend a three-day national women's conference organized by the Apostolic Church in Cameroon, and Jenny was asked to speak on the first day. The women had already been praying and worshipping for about two hours when we entered the sanctuary. We were escorted in and seated at the front with the pastors. I immediately knew that I would learn much from these women as I heard and saw them singing, weeping, and worshipping God in a very powerful way. Words cannot describe the atmosphere of praise that filled and overflowed from the sanctuary. I must admit that even

though I was a bit nervous for Jennie, I was relieved that she would be the first one speaking and not me. I felt I had little to offer these women of God. Jennie's message on 'Climbing the Mountain' was preceded and followed by African dancing, praise and whistle blowing, but when the pastor rang the bell, all was silent.

"After the first meeting, we were invited to return and speak at two more sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday. The following two days proved to be as moving as the first. On Tuesday, Jennie and I both spoke on 'Climbing the Mountain,' and I shared a testimony of my mountain experience in Japan, where God spoke very clearly to me in a time of need. On Wednesday, Jennie spoke on 'Reaching the Top of the Mountain – Meeting our Bridegroom,' and challenged the women to 'get out of the boat' and trust God to use them as fuel and light as a result of their mountaintop experience. We were given African dresses as gifts and the entire congregation prayed for us. It was truly a blessing to be able to minister to these women.

"Our schedule also included a three-day conference on 'Joy in Serving,' based on the book of Philippians and taught by me. Each session began with a powerful worship time. After the first day, I began to realize that the African Church knows how to worship. The highlights of the three days were the testimonies shared on the final day of how God used His Word in these women's lives. We were also able to pray for many of the women at the end of each session. The prayer time gave us insights into the hardships many African women face on a daily bases."



Alene teaches at the Women's Conference.

Jennie: The Women's Conference, and the Crusade



Jennie teaches at the Women's Conference.

"I must admit that I was overwhelmed as I walked into the sanctuary filled with lovely women and the mighty presence of God. God's goodness around the world is startling. To be received with such grace, kindness and openheartedness spoke greatly to my heart of Abba's love and acceptance. As we shared with the women, we all heard from heaven and shared a oneness in the Spirit. Sister Alene's encouragement from the book of Philippians was great. Women came each day, weary from their daily work but hungry for the Word. Hearts were moved, and the meetings were incredible!"

"At the end of each day, as we drove from the conference to the crusade and passed folks walking the narrow mountain highway to join us at the crusade site, I was humbly reminded of what real hunger for Christ looks like. The sacrifices people made to come and be together and celebrate Jesus were incredible. These brothers and sisters dressed like a bride and came. God's voice thundered nightly as the gospel message was presented in the power of the Holy Spirit, and many decisions were registered each night. Praise the Lord!"

...My soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.

Psalm 63:1



Participants listen intently at the Women's Conference.

Part III: Serving Church & State

Thursday, August 9, 2007 – Sunday, August 12, 2007



Thursday, August 9 was a day of many lasts. The medical consultation clinic run by Jerrice and Tommy ended that morning, the gospel crusade concluded that night, and the remaining items for the orphanage were purchased that day.

As always, the day began very early for the team and after a time of prayer and some breakfast, the kids were dropped off at the orphanage where they continued with day four of the VBS. Jerrice headed to the village while the orphanage shopping crew did its thing.

The items purchased that day were mainly farm and garden supplies (the children in the orphanage grow their own food and work on the farm, under the supervision of some staff members), including 20 liters (one box) of plant chemicals, 20 hoes, one spraying bucket, one two-wheeled truck for transporting farm produce, two wheelbarrows, five spades and four pairs of shoes. Orphanage Director Beatrice Mugri could not contain her gratitude. She said to Katie, "Your team has improved our standard of living. Thank you for crossing the ocean to bring us answers to our long-uttered prayers." By the grace of God and through the generous donations of our supporters, all the immediate needs expressed by the orphanage and deemed important by our team were met by Hope Outreach International Ministries.

In spite of daunting challenges, Jerrice and her team of nurses braved the odds and served close to 200 people who needed medical attention. The evening crusade meeting drew a large audience, and Julius presented the gospel in a very clear manner. Preceding the message, the village council representative read a letter of thanks from the local community, appreciating the spiritual and physical care they had received from Hope Outreach International Ministries, as well as the team's presence.

Meanwhile, the team continued to enjoy wonderful African hospitality. That day's lunch was served by the women of the Apostolic Church where Jennie and Alene had previously ministered for three days.

Friday, August 10 marked the conclusion of the VBS at the orphanage, which had been attended by children in the orphanage as well as those from the community. Simon reported that the farewell at the orphanage was "filled with emotion as goodbyes were said amid tears expressive of the difficulty of separation." This day also included two major events: a Thanksgiving Service organized by the Buea Rural Council to which Julius was invited as guest speaker, and a Pastors' Appreciation Banquet organized by Hope Outreach International Ministries.



The orphans thank God for their shoes, sheets and blankets.

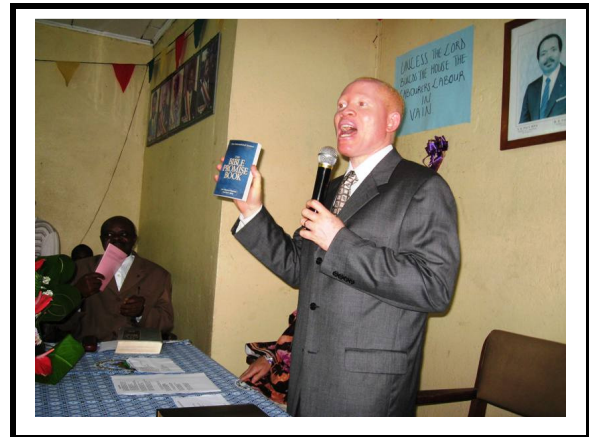
Alene: The Thanksgiving Service at the Buea Rural Council

“Once again, the Lord surprised the team as Julius was invited to speak at the Mayor’s Thanksgiving Service in the town of Buea. As God would have it, the monthly service had to be rescheduled from the first Friday of the month to the second Friday – the day that Julius was in town and available to speak.

“When we arrived, we were escorted into the Mayor’s office and introduced to all the local representatives. It was obvious that they appreciated our presence and looked forward to what would be shared. We then moved to the assembly room where we were seated on a platform at the front of the assembly and introduced.

“After a time of powerful prayer and worship (keep in mind that this is a government office), the Mayor spoke briefly and introduced Julius, who spoke on John 3, Nicodemus’ response to Christ. Julius encouraged and challenged the group, giving an opportunity for individuals to accept Christ at the end of his talk. Most of the room stood up at the invitation! What a well-used opportunity. Is this the beginning of a revival in Buea? The team members were asked to pray for the city and we closed with songs of thanksgiving.”

A formal agreement was presented to Hope Outreach International Ministries at this meeting. The Mayor of Buea offered a piece of land to us for the construction of a Pastors’ Retreat Center! The entire event was covered by local and national Cameroonian television and radio stations. Julius was interviewed by several journalists as we left. It was a powerful reminder of how God can use one person to bring about great change.



Promise Books were given out to everyone who attended the Mayor’s Thanksgiving Service.

*Blessed is the nation
whose God is the Lord.
Psalm 33:12*



Over 400 attended the Mayor’s Thanksgiving Service.

Alene: The Pastor's Appreciation Banquet

"Five hundred and seven (507) guests including the Mayor, Cameroonian pastors and their families attended a Pastors' Appreciation Banquet on Friday night (August 10) in Buea. It was a first for leaders from all denominations to gather in the city. Hope Outreach presented one-year scholarships (the Solomon Nfor Gwei Awards) to 10 students who are preparing for the ministry. Laptop computers were given to three Christian organizations – one, a radio station, and the others, evangelistic associations.

"The program also included a time of worship led by a local choir. Katie introduced the Hope Outreach team and gave an overview of the organization. The guests also heard a challenging message from Julius reminding the pastors of the five qualities of a godly leader. The pastors were very attentive and appreciative for all that Hope Outreach International Ministries was doing.

"Julius also reminded the guests of the importance of giving sacrificially. He stated that the fastest way to stop the work of God in any country was to fund that work completely from the outside. He challenged each person present to give something to the effort to expand God's kingdom, and a collection of \$400 was taken up. The funds were divided up and given to two radio stations, a choir and a young blind man who had traveled many miles to attend the crusade we were hosting only to find that it had ended the night before.

"Before the dinner began, a Baptist pastor from

the Northwestern city of Bamenda shared that on the previous Sunday he had been leading his congregation in the call to worship when he looked up and saw a look of fear on their faces. He turned around to find a figure standing behind him. The man had a long white beard and was dressed in Islamic clothing. The scariest thing about him was that he held in his hand a large sword, as though ready to do battle.

"As the young pastor shared his story he admitted that he had been very fearful at that moment, but didn't want the church members to know it. He courageously turned and stood face to face with the intruder for a moment. He then stepped down towards the congregation and led them in a time of prayer and worship.

"As they sang praises to the Lord, the pastor turned once again to face the intruder and realized that the man had fallen to the ground during the worship. The power of God was at work! The man slowly got up and limped out of the church. The pastor was completely taken aback by the incident and went to make some inquiries at the local mosque next door. They had never had any problems in the past. He was told that the intruder was new in town and was a member of Al Qaeda. He was in town to stir up trouble.

"This made it very clear to all of us that the church in Cameroon faces quite a challenge in pushing back the radical forces that surround them. It is a privilege to be involved in training pastors who are on the front lines in this strategic battle. Please remember them in your prayers."



507 attend the Pastors' Appreciation Banquet organized by Hope Outreach International Ministries.

On Saturday, August 11 the team traveled to Yaoundé to continue with the work of the mission trip. Simon took a day off to visit his mother in Muyuka, where he gave a message at the Word of Life Church.

In Yaoundé, the team was treated to lunch at the home of Donald and Esther Ndichafah, and joined this couple to worship at the University Baptist Church in Soa on Sunday, August 12.

The team enjoyed a common meal at the Bread for Life Guest House and proceeded to an evening gathering of over 500 people, about 40 percent of whom were pastors from over 20 different denominations in Yaoundé. The gathering was hosted by Francis Kimeng and his prayer group. Alene, Tommy, Jennie and Julius brought messages of encouragement and they challenged the leaders in Yaoundé to embrace the vision of a united church and the need to evangelize Muslims.



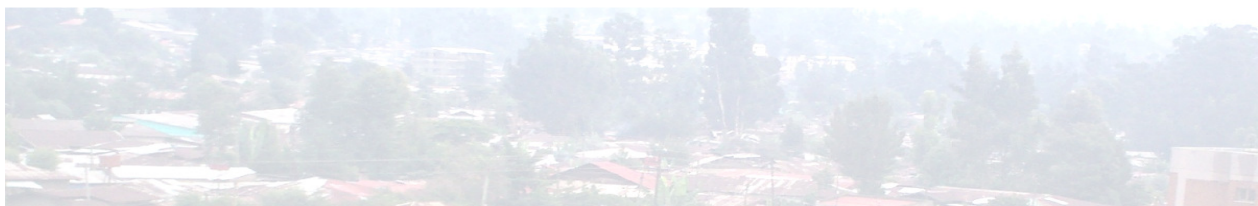
Team members with Esther and Donald Ndichafah.

...neither Jew nor Greek... neither slave nor free... neither male nor female... [but] all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28



Sunday evening evangelistic meeting in Yaoundé organized by Francis Kimeng.



Part IV: Ministering to the Incarcerated & Orphans in Yaoundé

Monday, August 13, 2007 – Tuesday, August 14, 2007



Our first full working day in Yaoundé (Monday, August 13) was also the last full day for Alene and Jennie, who left Cameroon the following day.

Jennie: Reflecting on My Time in Cameroon

“How to adequately describe the amazing work of the Holy Spirit using so many different open doors is difficult. He moved! He saved! He transformed! He loved on people! He captured hearts, He revealed sin. His mercy and grace were abundant.

“From the women’s conference, to crusade meetings, to medical outreach, to meetings with all kinds of people, to the gathering with the Mayor of Buea and his Council, God moved mightily. The folks in Cameroon welcomed us with arms wide open and with hearty hospitality. I actually felt like the one being served as opposed to the one serving. The level of kindness from our partners on the ground caused us to feel like we were part of the culture deeply and quickly, so reaching out in prayer, sharing, dancing, and singing all came easily.

The body of Christ was one, and outreach to the people was a united effort that brought God glory and showed His love across Cameroon. I loved ministering to the Cameroonian women, and at times the Lord was kind enough to actually speak His words through me. I’m so grateful and humbled by God’s desire to use weak vessels such as ourselves. Glory to God!”

Katie: Spending Time at the Yaoundé Central Prison

“We began the day with a trip to the Yaoundé Central Prison. The visit was organized by Esther Ndichafah of Hope Services Clinic and Maternity, and included gifts of bags of rice, cooking oil, raw fish and gospel leaflets. We were initially greeted by the prison superintendent who thanked us for coming and sharing both our time and our resources to help the prisoners. He praised God for us.

“We were divided up into groups and sent to different quarters of the prison. My team consisted of Simon, Jill, Kangin and myself. We were joined by Donald, Esther, Sam and several Christian inmates who served as French interpreters. The first quarter we entered was Quarter 13 – the youth area. It was uncomfortable at first, but soon the barriers were gone. I quickly connected with the youth who spoke English, and passed out the ‘special friend’ brochure prior to giving them an introduction to it and to the gospel.

Kangin shared from Roman 3:23. The Holy Spirit filled Simon with a message of hope for the young men. He challenged them to consider their ways, sending out a passionate appeal for them to surrender their lives to Jesus. We saw two-thirds of the 50 inmates come forward and submit their lives to Christ. As we were leaving, several of them requested our contact information for future correspondence.



Gifts of food for the prisoners in tow, the team prepares to present the gospel at Yaoundé Central Prison.

“One young man pointed to his bare feet and begged for flip flops. Several others joined in the request. Esther informed us that \$1 – \$2 would buy shoes for over 100 youth.

“It was difficult to leave these young people, but after we finally did, we were directed to the quarter that houses the death row inmates. It was a corridor of metal doors. Most were open, but a few were locked, with heads or hands pushed out of holes in the doors. We were told that behind the closed doors were prisoners confined for disciplinary purposes, a kind of solitary confinement.

“Esther introduced us to the prisoners and directed all to Kangin, who, being filled with the Holy Spirit, proceeded to give a message encouraging the inmates ‘to believe and follow.’ It was amazing how this young man commanded the group! Then he asked those who knew Jesus to stand. When nobody stood, he was quite taken back. He immediately asked all to stand that had a desire to know Jesus, at which three quarters of the men on death row stood up. Kangin then preached his message, followed by Simon, who asked: ‘What is your attitude: that of the accusing thief at Jesus’ side, or the second thief who recognized that Jesus was an innocent man?’ Again, many of the men indicated that they wanted to surrender their lives to Jesus. Praise God! Other team members saw similar responses in the quarters where they ministered.

“We had lunch at Julius’ tenth grade teacher’s home and then visited the Hope Services Clinic and Maternity. We wrapped up the day with a trip to the market.”



Julius with some young people at the Yaoundé Central Prison.

Meanwhile, a scheduled trip to the northern city of Ngaoundere by Tommy and Julius was called off due to logistics, and a local team of four was dispatched instead.

On Tuesday, August 14 Franklin accompanied Alene and Jennie by bus to the Douala International Airport for their flight home. Jerrice was in scrubs serving alongside Esther and her staff at the medical clinic. Julius spent the day in meetings with leaders and pastors in Yaoundé. And Katie and the rest of the team ministered to orphans at a village located on the outskirts of Yaoundé.

Jerrice: Working at Hope Services Clinic & Maternity

“Today began by saying goodbye to Jennie and Alene, two ladies I have grown to love dearly. This farewell, added to the fact that I had begun to miss home, brought me a feeling of loneliness and sadness. The devotion for me that day was Galatians 6:9 – ‘And let us not grow weary while doing good for in due season, we shall reap if we do not loose heart.’ This scripture, plus our group devotion of praise and worship, lifted my spirit.

“Today I also experienced medical care at Hope Services Clinic and Maternity. My first experience was an introduction to the maternity ward, and assistance with an eight-day-old male’s circumcision. We continued on to the immunization clinic, which housed 88 new mothers and babies in a room approximately 20 feet by 20 feet, with one window. The experiences will enable me to direct my focus to areas where I can help in the future. I will never complain again about medical care in the States. What a great experience!”



Jerrice with a baby at Hope Services Clinic & Maternity.

Katie: A Day with the Children

“After our 7 am devotions followed by breakfast, we left for our second day of this third week in Cameroon. First, we dropped off Jerrice at the clinic and picked up Jeanne Veronique, the new director of the Petite Dan & Sara Orphanage. With her were the founder, Joseph Zingui, and his wife. We drove first to the orphanage and then continued our journey to a village where 27 of the orphans were spending their summer vacation. Joseph explained that they wanted the children to experience what it was like to live in a village versus in a bustling town. Each summer, the children spent some time in that village to give them that experience.

“The trip to the village had its challenges. We had 15 people wedged into our van and a third of the way, we got a flat tire. We had a spare but at the next town Matthias, our driver, thought it best to try to repair the tire so we would have a good spare available. What was supposed to be a 90-minute drive turned into a five-hour trip! But, the teens sang most of the way and it was a joyful adventure.

“When we arrived at the village, we met two workers who were volunteering their time this summer to work with orphans and teach them English. Patrick was from Yaoundé (and we exchanged emails), and Jessica was from the United Kingdom. They quickly wrapped up their project and let us jump into our program. Kangin

introduced the team, our special necklaces with the five colored beads were given out, and Sara led the group in walking the children through the wordless book. Each teen took their turn at explaining the message behind each color/page. Meanwhile, Jinet, who we met at the Pastor's Appreciation Dinner in Buea, served as our French interpreter. Jinet has been such an asset to the team.

“At the end of our visit, Simon stepped up and gave an intense invitation. Honestly, it felt uncomfortable to me because we had been there for such a short time and I wondered if we had earned the right to present the gospel so directly. But, as God would have it, the majority of the group raised their hands, including Joseph, the founder. It was another exciting moment of our stay. We passed out the gift bags, heart-shaped pins and some treats. Then, the men strongly suggested that we get on the road. It was approaching 3:30 pm and the rest of the team was waiting for us at Emmanuel and Martha Kombe's home for a late lunch.

“We ended the day back at the Bread for Life Center Guest House with strict orders to go to bed by 10 pm and be ready for our Wednesday morning devotions at 7 am. Tonight I had a chance to visit with the staff members who are serving us at the center. I learned that Yvonne was the coordinator for the Northwest Province for Cameroon Youths for Jesus. She took a break from her home to serve with us for these three weeks. Yvonne has been cooking for the team since our arrival. Praise God!”



Children at the Petite Dan & Sarah Orphanage listen intently as the team shares the gospel with them.

Part V: Wrapping Up, & Heading Home

Wednesday, August 15, 2007 – Thursday, August 16, 2007



Tommy and Sam left for Buea this morning (Wednesday, August 15) to continue their ministry on the streets of that former (German colonial) capital of Cameroon. The rest of the team remained in Yaoundé.

Katie: More Time with the Children

“Wednesday, August 15 began with our usual 7 am devotions followed by breakfast, after which we left for our third day of this third week in Cameroon. Again, we dropped off Jerrice at the clinic and headed to the Ekoko II handicap hospital and orphanage. When we arrived, they had just started a one and a half hour worship service. Remember that we are now in the predominantly French-speaking part of Cameroon. No one understands me and we can’t communicate without interpreters. Praise God for the precious local Christians that are volunteering their time to do this. Their compassion for these people is evident to all of us.

“While we were waiting, we were introduced to a 15-year-old who had been in a car accident and was paralyzed from the waist down. It was troubling to see this young man’s condition. It looked like he had been placed in a bed in a big dormitory-type environment and just left to lie there. We stopped and asked him a few questions. We prayed for God’s healing over his body. We could see his tears. We asked him if he liked to draw and when he said yes, we gave him a sketchpad and a pack of coloring pencils. It seemed very little.



Katie with a few of the children.

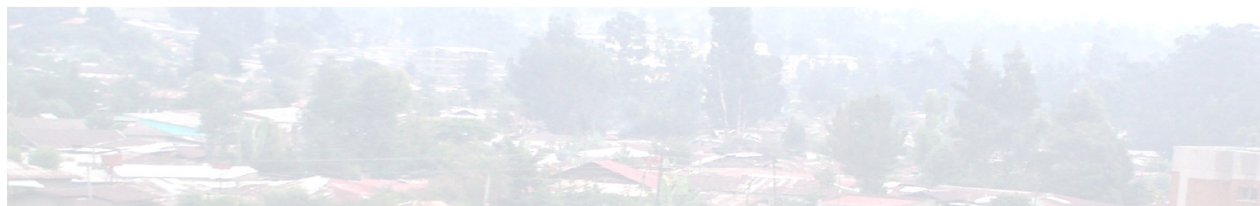
“The director and her husband then gave us a tour of the facility and when the service was over, we were given an opportunity to speak to the children and patients. Their resident priest was very cordial and thanked us for coming.

“We followed a similar pattern to the day before where we passed out special necklaces with the five colored beads. I introduced the group and Sara led the group in walking the children through the wordless book. Each teen took their turn at explaining the message behind each color/page. Jinet served as our French interpreter. Again, we had such a short time and we hoped that our connection with Esther had earned us the right to present the gospel. Again, we saw God draw His people to Himself with a show of hands.

“We stopped at a Christian bookstore then returned to the Bread for Life Center Guest House for lunch. We made a quick run to the market and ended up at Esther’s house for dinner. Yum! I did have the opportunity to sit with Esther and she shared a bit of the history of her involvement in reaching out to orphans, widows and the incarcerated. Esther is truly a powerhouse for God. She has such a compassion for those who are needy. And God is blessing her efforts.

“I must say that I am feeling a real need to develop a spirit of discernment as we continue our work here. Proverbs 3:10-11 says, ‘For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. Discernment will protect you, and understanding will guard you.’ Each day brings its challenges to determine which needs are legitimate ones and which needs we will be able to help with.

“We ended the day back at the center with strict orders to go to bed by 10 pm and be ready for Thursday morning devotions at 6:30 am. We are being asked to fast from 6 am – 6 pm to seek God’s hand in the remainder of our trip. I end the day praising God for all that He has done!”



Thursday, August 16, was a day devoted to general fasting and prayer as our entire team and friends in Cameroon spent time humbling our souls and seeking the Lord.

Katie: Wrapping Up Our Mission Trip

“After a 6:30 am worship and prayer time on Thursday, August 16 we left for our last full day in Yaoundé. Praise God – we connected with the Bible Society and purchased 60 Bibles to distribute to the orphans at HOTPEC in Buea. We are now set to complete our mission on Friday.

“The teens spent some leisure time at the zoo this morning and then we picked up Jerrice from the clinic and headed back to the center for our noon prayer time. Benjamin led the team in an emotional time of expressing our devotion to our heavenly Father and singing praises to His name.

“When we had completed our prayer time, Donald (Esther’s husband) arrived with news that a problem had been discovered with the bus that was supposed to transport us to Buea. It seemed the oil filter had clogged and the engine would have to be lifted up and repaired. After some discussion it was decided that the most practical option was to repair the bus as quickly as possible, even if it meant leaving later in the day on Friday. It was decided that Hope Outreach would contribute funds to replace two of the badly worn tires, with the balance applied to the expense of the repairs of the bus.



The entire team is presented with traditional Cameroonian bags as gifts.

“Jerrice and I took an hour-long nap and then we joined everyone else at 3:30 pm for a final time

of prayer and worship. Julius led us through the fifth chapter of the book of John, discussing the time of the rapture and the attitude of the Pharisees and how we should consider any similarity of attitude in our own lives. This evening we are attending a dinner with pastors and will return to the center to pack and prepare for our departure in the morning. Praise God from whom all blessing flow!”



The entire team in prayer.

On Thursday, August 16 Julius went back to the Yaoundé Central Prison where a follow-up meeting for people who had made decisions for Christ during Monday’s outreach was held. Over 300 inmates attended this 90-minute session and listened to a teaching on the basics of the new life in Christ. Follow up meetings continue daily in all quarters of the prison under the leadership of a group of seven brothers who are under Esther’s discipleship program.

On Friday, August 17 the team finally left Yaoundé at 4:30 pm and made it into Buea at 10 pm for another short night of packing and preparations for our return to the United States. A final stop for distribution of Bibles at the HOTPEC orphanage on Saturday, August 18 brought this phase of our mission to an end. Our next stop was the Douala International Airport where eight team members boarded flights back to the US and Tommy caught a night flight to the Ukraine for ministry. Julius stayed on in Cameroon with Benjamin, Franklin and our driver Matthias and he spoke at the Douala International Church on Sunday, August 19 before returning to Buea for more meetings.

One of the striking unscheduled meetings on Sunday evening was that between the Nzeutches and Julius. Daniel Nzeutche works



Cameroon is known for its lush vegetation. The team could not resist the urge to photograph this pineapple.

for the national radio and television agency and had recently shared Christ with a colleague whose father is the Director of Central Intelligence for the government of Cameroon. Now Daniel, his wife and this young believer are under intense persecution and need our prayers.

We returned to Yaoundé on Monday night ahead of speaking on Tuesday evening at a crusade at the Yaoundé National Soccer Stadium hosted by Campus Crusade for Christ. In addition to speaking at the opening night of this crusade, we also contributed towards the expenses for the meeting and this brought a great deal of encouragement to the organizers. Again, this could only happen thanks to the generous financial support of our donors.

Julius finally left Cameroon on Wednesday, August 22, while Tommy left the Ukraine for the US on Friday, August 24. The entire 12-person team converged for a final 'planning' meeting at the Chapel on the Campus in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on Sunday, August 26, during which we offered prayers of thanks to God for His presence, protection and provision, for our partners, donors and for the fruit of this recent mission.

Tommy: The Meek Shall Inherit the Earth

"So said the apostle: 'Where is the wise? Where is the mighty? God has chosen the humble and the lowly to confound the wise of this world.' God lifts up the weak and puts down the mighty. So has been my observation of God's work in Cameroon, West Africa. What kings of old have desired to see and hear, this God has done for the poor in spirit in Cameroon. Our team has preached Christ Jesus, and God has been pleased to save not a few in Cameroon, but many. The crusade in Buea was very fruitful, and only God knows how many came to Christ for eternal life. And as for Katie and her team, how they labored much to help the orphans! Only God knows what they have done. The same can be said of the sister who labored with me to help the sick, Jerrice.

"Now I must tell of the brothers and sisters in Cameroon who helped us in our work. More honor goes to them than us. So many worked so long and slept so little. We from the US were amazed at their labor of love for us and for the Lord.



"I will tell just one of many stories that spoke of their labor. There was a brother from Cameroon who helped us with all the difficult tasks of our trip. After about a week, we learnt that this brother was the chief of his tribe in Cameroon. This brother did not act like a chief, but like a servant. One day, I gave my dirty clothes to be washed at the hotel, but my clothes were given to this chief to wash by hand. Well, I protested strongly and said to the chief that I did not want him to wash my clothes, but that the work should be given to some poor woman and I would gladly pay her for it. The next day, when I saw

the chief and asked him about the clothes, he said 'I have washed them, and they are ready.' I responded that I should have been washing his clothes, and yet he was washing mine. Then he said to me, 'We are all brothers, and I am not higher, but only a brother.'

"Oh Lord Jesus, how you have spoken! 'Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.' It is to the people like this that God Almighty is making his Son known, and we are witnesses to His mighty work."



Members of the US and Cameroon teams in Yaoundé on the last day of the trip.

