



Cameroon Report

Church of Christ
1400 Troy Road
Collinsville, IL 62234-5146

Church of Christ, NSO'
W. Paul Kee, Evangelist
P.O. Box 24
Nso' Bui Division
Cameroon, West Africa
Home phone: 011-237-3-348-1168
Cell phone: 011-237-7-750-2250
Office phone: 011-237-3-348-1119
wpaulkee@aol.com
www.keesincameroon.org

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we are in Indiana., our 15th state to visit. We have traveled many, many miles, over 21,000 so far in the car. We have had the privilege of seeing so many of you, and we are always grateful for the time we have with you. We appreciate so much your prayers in our behalf and the work in Cameroon.

We have heard from Cameroon that many activities are continuing well in our work while we are in the United States. They had to replace the engine in the best Toyota pickup they have been using, but they have been able to go out three times a week to Mbokam, a large, isolated village down a terrible road. They report two baptisms so far and the preaching is still going well, so we pray for more tangible results. This should be another congregation in Bui Division, where we have 39 already.

Since the new year started, we have been on the road constantly. We spent two weeks in Alabama, with one trip back to Memphis in the middle for the funeral of a good neighbor. We got to stay about 6 nights in between trips with Ryan and Laura, in their new house. Ryan will soon be 27 and they are both working hard in Huntsville. May will mark their 6th anniversary, so the young kids are getting older, even if I'm not! Ha! We also got to spend about 11 days in East Tennessee, seeing so many long acquaintances and friends. I even got to drive in 4 inches of snow in Johnson City, joy, joy! During that week we got to see some families of former missionaries, and got to stay some nights with one of Janet's best friend's family in Kingston. We also really enjoyed seeing so many long-time supporting congregations and encouraging them about the work.

We were scheduled to go to Paragould the last Wednesday of January, but the ice storm came through just before that. When I called on Tuesday, they were hopeful of having their services, if the power did not go out. On Wednesday morning they called me to say they could not use their parking lot, so everything was off for then! The next week we were in Henderson, TN for the Freed-

Hardeman Lectureship. The Sundays before and after we had appointments in that area and in Mississippi.

For the next 16 days we were in Arkansas and Texas, visiting or speaking at 8 congregations. I had the unexpected opportunity to preach at the Holliday congregation where my Dad preaches Sunday mornings, and gave our presentation on Sunday night at the congregation where they are members in Wichita Falls, Faith Village. After getting back on Thursday evening, we left for 9 days in the St. Louis area., where I spoke 6 times. We went to Mississippi on the Wednesday which was Janet's mother's birthday, and left Friday for Indiana. By the end of this month, we will be going through Arnold, MO and back to East Tennessee, Alabama, and Arkansas, so we are still busy for two or three weeks.

We have tentative plans to fly to Cameroon on May 14, with back-up reservations on June 2nd. We really want to go back sooner, but the present economy has slowed down our fund raising. We hope to get in more answers within the next three weeks. We plan to ship our crates in early May, but we still have not ordered the Bibles we need. We would like 10,000 but have money now for only 1,500. We have visited 74 congregations already, 85% of those we are scheduled to visit. We have raised 24% of the one-time expenses we are trying to secure, but only 11% of the additional monthly contributions needed. So please keep us in your prayers. We don't know what will happen about money.

We also ask you to continue to pray for our safety. We are glad that gas prices here have stayed down below \$2.00, but remember, it is still \$6.00 a gallon in Cameroon! So with the dollar going down 40% since 2006, you can see what a big bite has been taken out of our spending power. Most of all, pray for the spread of the Lord's Kingdom in Cameroon. We are so grateful for your part in this effort.

Paul

JOTS from JANET

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, and friends,

What can I say now?? Paul has pretty much summed it up about our travels. I have been with him every step of the way, so I will try to write “in between the lines.” It is Hard for me at times to even think back as far as the last newsletter I wrote! It seems that I left off right at Thanksgiving time with a visit to Paul's parent's house. So, I will start with December.

Paul had promised me most of December in my hometown, Memphis. That is where my mother and sister live. He knows how I like to decorate for Christmas, and enjoy the holidays with my family. I was not going to overdo the decorations, because I knew whatever I brought down from the attic must go up again. I even considered, (and gave in) to buying a new decoration here and there, so that I would not have to bring down so many things out of the attic but that did not end up that way, Ha!. Paul and I bought a beautiful artificial pre--lighted tree, so that we would not be worried about a real one catching on fire while we were out of town. We did still travel out of town on Sundays and Wednesdays for reporting to congregations, but came back to Memphis between eleven and one a.m.. The Saturday before Christmas was the day we chose to have our family dinner because Ryan and Laura could be in town then. They bad wanted to spend their first Christmas in their new house, at home; rightfully so.

Before the holiday week, my mom had to have back surgery because of a herniated disk. She had been in extreme pain for six weeks. After the operation, I took care of her for a week at my house. I was so grateful to have that opportunity, as she took care of me three years ago at her house when I bad to have the very same kind of surgery. She is doing great now and can't believe that she has no more pain! She highly recommends that kind of surgery for those with acute back pain.

I have a great-niece, who is 5, and a great-nephew , who is 3. I had them over to make Christmas cookies and spend some time with me and Uncle Paul. I took them to visit Santa Claus and look at Christmas lights. (I wanted to do that more than they did!) Yet we had fun, and I am glad now the nephew knows my name. Christmas Day was spent with my sister visiting some elderly people, from my home congregation. That was a very enjoyable time, looking to others instead of looking inward to one's self. So sorry I did not have a white Christmas like a lot of folks did. I have only had one and that was 4 years ago. We just missed the biggest snow the South has had in years by coming up north to St. Louis! Paul bad planned our journeys north to NOT be in the winter time, but at times it backfires! I enjoy the cold weather because I get to wear my coats and boots and feel the crispness on my face, which I love. I hope you have had a safe and healthy Winter, looking forward to the newness of life.

In Christian love,

