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NOUVELLES DU CAMEROUN EDITION Nº 17 // JANUARY-APRIL 2024

Surely I am with YOU always, to the very end of the age! In spite of a few difficulties, the activities of Camwork are going well. The Lord is indeed on the field and His promise to be with his workers is ever true: the physical health of the Bassay family is carefully watched after, the funds are provided on time and the Bassays and both their ministry (Camwork) and collaborators are covered by hundreds of prayers said all over the world daily.

This is the report for January through April 2024 highlighting 5 major activities: the marriage workshop, the work in Bomono, the February seminar, the women's day outreach and the Abong Mbang church plant.

Cameroon greetings and blessings to the Family of God!



THE PREVIOUS REPORTS

- → RP#13 The 2023 YEP VBS report https://camwork.org/media/report/RP13 YEP-VBS 2023.pdf
- → RP#14 The IHCF Grant Report 1 https://camwork.org/media/report/RP14 IHCF GRANT.pdf
- → RP#15 The 2023 Kerusso Experience report https://camwork.org/media/report/RP15 Kerusso 2023 EN.pdf
- → RP# 16 The IHCF Grant Report 2 https://camwork.org/media/report/RP16 IHCF GRANT REPORT 2 - .pdf

THE MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

January 23 to 26 was awesome! Sixteen selected couples (church leaders) from all over Cameroon met in Bonaberi Douala for a marriage workshop. It was facilitated by Fielden and Janet Allison, American missionaries based in Tanzania. Discussions were focused on the oneness in marriage, communication, conflict resolution, sex, children's discipline, birth control and family budgeting.

This was first of its kind in the church of Christ in Cameroon. Every moment was reward-



ing. The couples learned a lot, left determined to make their marriages better and also to help others better their marriages. "Strong marriages build strong families, strong families make up strong churches and strong churches build strong communities for the glory of God." Gratitude to the Allisons.

THE WORK IN BOMONO

The Church in Louis' hometown existed for over 30 years but for lack of good leadership and infrastructure, the church has been very weak. By the grace of God the face of the church in Bomono has changed: John and Deb Callahan of Mulberry AR enabled the purchase of a well situated piece of land. A temporary worship place was erected within 3 months and on February 11, 2024, The Bomono church of Christ had its inaugural service. This day was preceded by a 4 day door-to-door evangelism and sharing of customized tracts Louis wrote.



The attendance has moved from 15 or so to 45 on average every Sunday. Pray for Maria who was baptized on the 28th of April and 3 other families who worship regularly but are still to surrender to the Lord. The Bassays worship 2 Sundays a month with this congregation, every Thursday for classes and every Friday for prayer meetings. Louis preaches, teaches and helps in leadership while Linda and Renea helps respectively with women and children

THE FEBRUARY SEMINAR

Linda worked with Louise Clement from Lubbock TX for two weeks, empowering women from the French and English speaking part of the country. Emphasis was on how to prepare and teach Bible class to the little ones, using little or no-cost visual aids. The revised Sunday school teacher's supplement



and thumb drives containing new Sunday school songs were given out to attendees. Videos of Sunday school songs from various congregations across the country, put together by Louis and Linda in 2010 and 2015 were uploaded to YouTube for easy access by the Sunday school teachers.

Louise taught the ladies on the topic "Guarding your heart: how to set boundaries for the kids and for the adults. She also taught the ladies how to access other internet resources for Bible study materials.

Louis worked with Jim Corner (Buckingham Road CofC in Dallas TX) and his brother Don (Pullman CofC in Washington), translating for the men's classes.

THE WOMEN'S DAY PROGRAM

The women were celebrated in Bonaberi on March 8th with the theme, Invest in Women, Accelerate Progress. It was about economic, social and moral progress. This can only happen if God is at the center. An economically strong but morally weak society will never experience good progress.

Activities included, Bible lessons, a drama, games, praises and prayers for the families and the country, health talk and a dinner.

There were over a hundred ladies from the neighborhood and several congregations around Douala. A couple of ladies in the neighborhood have started worshiping with the Bonaberi Church after this program. Pray for them to fully accept Christ.

ABONG MBANG CHURCH PLANT

After previous church plants in Anguissa, Santchou, Mbango and Mbalngong, Camwork through its program called "**V**ision des **E**vangélistes Francophones pour la **R**estauration et le **S**alut des Âmes" (Acronym VERS, meaning TOWARD) led a team of 17 evangelists selected across French Cameroon to Abong-Mbang for a church plant that lasted 4 days (April 18-21). Three souls were added to the Kingdom (Pamela, Ruffine and Enoch) and



a congregation began on Sunday April 21st with an attendance of 37, including 13 visitors. The work consisted of "door-to-door" evangelism, distribution of customized tracts written by Louis, and public address every evening from 6pm to 8pm.

Though Camwork has church plants in its program, each mission thus far has been prompted by a call from brethren who found themselves in an area without a congregation. In the case of Abong-Mbang, the call was made by Paul Kaldaza, an English teacher who has been in that area for 8 years. The





closest congregation is Bertoua, two hours away. Many thanks to the Bertoua church for its collaboration in this mission. They provided all the food and are committed to sending helpers every Sunday.

Souleymanou Bouba, Louis' student, a graduate of the Bear Valley Bible Institute Mbanga Cameroon, is committed to serving this new congregation though faced with funding problems for lodging for his family and a need for a convenient place of worship. Three Macedonian calls are up already for the next plants at Ayos, Kye-Ossi and Garoua-Boulaï. Prayers for success with these are needed.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Radio Ministry is ongoing though after the last evaluation meeting (looking at strengths and weaknesses) Camwork will soon come up with a new approach.

Louis and Linda taught in the Bear Valley Bible Institute Wotutu in February as part of their participation in the spiritual formation of men and women in Cameroon. April was about the National Youth Forum. Louis and Linda are blessed to play a key leadership role in the life of the youth.

The ongoing Reusable Sanitary Pads project received a grant from the International Healthcare Foundation and has made the work more sustainable.

CHALLENGES

The Bassays have yet to receive the things shipped from the USA last February, most of them are needed for the Camwork day-care scheduled to start in September. Also, the website <u>www.camwork.org</u> has been down for a while and is still under maintenance. However, all past and recent reports have been uploaded.

MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

- \rightarrow Kerusso Sunday an opportunity for the Kerusso boys to practice in different congregations May
- \rightarrow National preacher forum May
- \rightarrow YEP VBS July
- → The National Youth Retreat (Louis directs the team responsible to come up with the schedule and the choice of speakers August
- → The Kerusso Experience: Gamma Batch August
- \rightarrow Prison Visit October
- \rightarrow The Annual lectureship November
- \rightarrow Cloverdale Visit (Jon, Keith and Chris) December

ABOUT THE BASSAY

Despite spotted episodes of malaria, a common occurrence in Cameroon, the Bassays have been doing great. The kids are out of school for the summer, except for Renea who is preparing to take the national exam that will lead her to college. The exam begins on Tuesday May 28th after her graduation on May 25th. Please keep her in your prayers for success in her exams. It has been a good school year for everyone. Pray Also for Lori-Angela at Harding. She is in good hands. Linda is grateful to the Cloverdale family for her new computer :)

To Him who is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine according to His might, to Him, our God, be all the glory in our lives and His church. One more thing: "let brotherly love continue!"

Saving Souls, Strengthening the Saved, Serving the Society CAMWORK REPORT PAGE 4