

# PRAYmissions

Karen Foster in Cameroon

“It is not rare to lose a child here,” I wrote a year ago, after a Sunday school girl in a nearby church died of illness. Africa is known for large families and for orphans, and we’re not the exception here in Yaounde. That God comforts and provides for kids, and especially that their faith grows or they come to know him as they experience loss.

Brothers Fabien and Fleuri of the local “football” boys lost their father to illness last month and were whisked off to another town with relatives. Thankfully, they’d been with that family last year for school vacation. Mom had already left dad. I bought them a “football” to take along, not realizing they were already gone. It will not go to waste.

This month it’s John’s five kids, ages 3 to 13, who are orphaned. We use the term “orphan” when either parent dies. John apparently died of a strangled hernia. They’re pictured below, exactly two years ago. On the right is Marie, who was with them for a couple years until her dad turned up. He had gone missing during the war in the C.A.R. and was presumed dead. John worked at my house for over 10 years but was let go last year before I went to the U.S. because of his long-standing tendency to disappear when he was supposed to be guarding my house. I know the kids better than any others in Cameroon.



Coworker Jacquie and I were able to visit the home. The kids, a 14-year-old niece who’s been with them, an uncle and I went out to lunch one day last week. They’re brave little folks and were obviously well taken care of by dad. Five-year-old Melanie is still a vivacious hugging hand-holder. Seven-year-old Sarah is still shy, but not too shy to ask for strawberry ice cream after lunch! Next time; they’d had plenty of soda pop. Mom is around but left the family a couple years ago. She apparently hasn’t remarried and the hope is that she will take care of the kids for the rest of the school year (will there be a rest of the school year??) and then they’ll probably be scattered among relatives. Who can take in five together?

See the Welcome Center bulletin board for the full missionary prayer letters.

# GRACE

COMMUNITY CHURCH

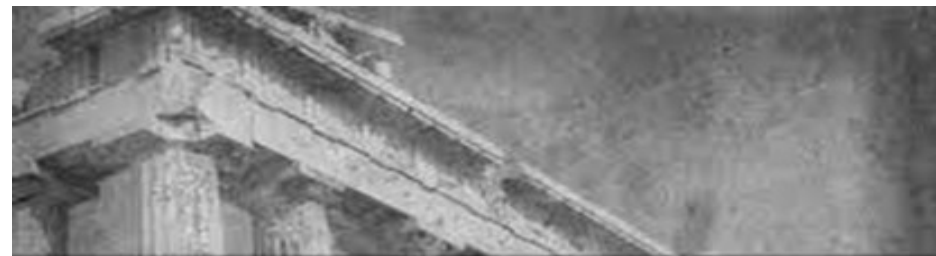
March 29, 2020

Today’s Message: *Hope More and More*

Today’s Text: *Thess. 4:13-18*

Today’s Speaker: *Pastor Bob Foote*

*Great to have you at Grace!*



## I & II Thessalonians



*~ Exalting God, Encouraging People ~*

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## Week of Mar 29

### Sunday

Check emails, Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/228200600551840/>), and [www.hhgcc.org](http://www.hhgcc.org) for online studies and more information.

Need more content—kids or adults? E-mail: pastor @hhgcc.org to be added to [rightnowmedia.org](http://rightnowmedia.org) as an HHGCC user. You'll be amazed at resources available via your internet connection. No charge to you to use.

Keep praying as God has his hands on all of us. Let us know how we can help you help your neighbors.

## Stewardship Report

### Weekly Goals

Local Budget: \$6,378  
Missions: \$894

### Received Mar 22

Local Budget: \$4,107  
Missions: \$225  
BURO: \$10  
Love in a Bag: \$5  
Children's: \$10

**Online Giving:** We now have online giving available. The following link: <https://hhgcc.breezechms.com/give/online> Will take you to GCC's giving page. You may use a credit card, debit card or have funds drawn directly via ACH from your checking account. This is in the drop down of payment options. You may set up a one-time gift or as a recurring gift, designate where you would like your funds to go: general fund, missions, benevolence, etc., and if you want your contribution to go to more than one place just click to add a gift to another fund Please reach out at [gracechurch61@gmail.com](mailto:gracechurch61@gmail.com) if you need any help with this process.

**Want to receive GCC's email prayer updates** and have a means of asking for prayer? Then visit GCC's website, [hhgcc.org](http://hhgcc.org) (see QR code at the right). Use the contact us link at the bottom of the main page under "Our Church." Consider joining the "announcements" group at the same time to have access to GCC's inclement weather cancellation information. You may also check out our Facebook page.

**FYI—Annual Celebration (a.k.a. Business Meeting)** is April 26th in the Commons at 11:45 am after church service. Lunch is provided. *This may be delayed!*



**Church workday** has been scheduled for Saturday April 18 9-3. Sign up by sending an email to [gracechurch61@gmail.com](mailto:gracechurch61@gmail.com). We will be working outside. A rain date will be April 25. Anytime you can give would be appreciated and lunch will be provided. Bring a dessert to share.

**Love in a Bag:** Did you know there are kids in Huber who don't have enough food to eat? Want to help change this? Join GCC in providing a weekly bag of food and toiletry items to needy kids at Monticello Elementary. We serve 30 children each week. (Monetary donations are welcomed).

### Next Week:

Text: 1 Thess. 5:1-11



**Donor Envelopes:** To facilitate regular giving, request a set of weekly donation envelopes with an individualized ID number. Contact church office: 233-4324 or grace-

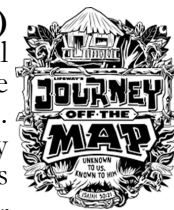
### YTD Financial Update

GCC's budget status on  
Mar. 22, 2020  
Local: \$ -23,277 (behind)  
Missions: \$ -1,802 (behind)  
Our fiscal year ends March 31st.

**Holly Bloemhof prayer request:** We are doing well, thankfully. However, we are confined at home (as is all of France) to slow the spread of the virus. That is not an easy thing, though definitely necessary. As of today, we can go to the pharmacy, the doctor's office, or the grocery, and must have a govt. document stating purpose of our outing. We would appreciate prayer for our health (again fine), and for our hearts (and the girls) to be guarded by God's peace. May God use us to speak the hope that can only be found in Christ during these challenging times, whether by phone or text message. Also, I expect more children to visit [cliquelavie.com](http://cliquelavie.com) where they can do Bible adventures and ask for prayer. We are also praying for the US, and for all of you. I am thankful that God is near, a present help in time of need.

### Vacation Bible School (VBS)

To find out what VBS is all about, and where you can serve (and enjoy some yummy food). Tentatively planned for Saturday April 25, 10-12 Pam Jacob's House, 5278 Tall Oaks Huber Heights. Please RSVP: Terri (937) 776-1018, [tdcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:tdcampbell@gmail.com)



**The Florida International University and Dark Sky** will not be here in April due to the cancellation of WGI events.

## About Us

### Purpose

Grace Community Church exists for God—for His praise and purpose and to display His character and compassion.

We are to worship Him, grow to be like Him, and encourage others to believe in and follow Him

(See: Eph. 3:20; John 15:8, 16; Col. 3:17; Matt. 28:18-20)

### Pattern

- Cultivating people with a growing love for God and His truth.
- Rejoicing in our worship.
- Strengthening our families.
- Encouraging each other with words, prayer, and actions.
- Actively reaching our world near and far.



QR: [Hhgcc.org](http://hhgcc.org)

## College of Elders

Bob Dawson  
Bob Foote  
John Miller  
Mark Mohler  
Steve Oder  
Jerry Root  
Ron Sheranko  
Barry Wideman

### Staff

**Senior Pastor:** Bob Foote  
**Children's Ministry:** Terri Campbell  
**Communications:** Tiffany Richter  
**Facilities Care:** Lela Sims  
**Facilities Maintenance:** Mike Sims Sr.