

# THE SELLERS SEQUEL

ENJOYING THE JOURNEY AND EMBRACING THE DETOURS



## WHAT WE'RE LEARNING...

### Missionaries of the Church of God to Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa

*"Trusting Him when we do not understand"*

It is a joy to let you know that this letter is being written from Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire; even if it is four months later than anticipated. Those were unexpected months of sheltering in place in Indiana that were not a part of our plan. During that time God provided a place to stay, extra time with Laura, our daughter and opportunity to accomplish some long-neglected projects.

By early August, God opened a door for us to return back to Côte d'Ivoire.

After being sent off by our Africa missionary colleagues and Pastor Terry Canfield, we left Indiana on August 12 arriving into Abidjan the next evening. Our trip went even smoother than we anticipated despite the COVID-19 restrictions. After clearing im-migration and customs in Abidjan we were directed to a tent outside of the terminal where our temperatures and contact in-formation were taken. There was no mention of quarantine or of, COVID-19 testing even though we had our test results in hand.

We spent two days in Abidjan to re-acclimate and to purchase groceries and supplies before heading to Yamoussoukro.



We learned on the day of our arrival that the road to Yamoussoukro was closed to due to demonstration taking place, which would have hindered our route home. On the day we planned to return, all was clear and we were pleased to get home with no problems. The Lord had our travel itinerary set for just the right time!

We have learned that even in the midst of a pandemic we can always trust that the Lord knows what is best for us! We are thankful He had all the pieces in place for us to take shelter during the time we were in the States just before the ending of our home assignment. He knew in advance that we would need to be in Indiana during the time of the pandemic. He also knew how long it would take before we could return

WHAT WE'RE  
DOING....  
RESETTLING

Since we have been back, we have been cleaning the house and office, getting unpacked and set up, and re-adjusting to warm humid weather once again.

We have only gone out for some essentials, like internet and phone reconnections, cash from ATMs, and supplies. We have called several of our pastors, and other leaders and seen a few people in town. But for the most part we are staying home for 14 days just as a precaution before resuming our usual public activities.

We are using this time for correspondence and preparation for upcoming events. In September, things will get busy once again with a full week of executive meetings followed by two weeks of classes at IBAO. With national elections taking place in Côte d'Ivoire in late October, we need to get as much done as possible before that as we may need to limit travel around election time when the political climate tends to heat up along with the weather!



Enjoying being on our veranda once again!



Thibaut, a student from the Yamoussoukro Church, presenting his oral defense for his degree in marketing. We were privileged to attend.



Larry working in the Office!

WHAT THEY'RE  
DOING....  
*SERVING OTHERS*

One of the most exciting events in the last month has been the drilling of a well on the new church property at Lakpolo in northern Côte d'Ivoire on June 24. It is a great story of God's victory over the forces of evil. Pastor Yeo was not present when the drilling rig team arrived on site that morning, but he told them they could begin drilling and he would be there shortly. Before they began to drill, the local village elders told the team that they must offer a live animal sacrifice to seek the blessing and help of the ancestors and village gods or else they may fail to find water. The head of the drilling team, who was a Christian, said that this well was for the church and therefore it would not be appropriate to sacrifice to pagan gods for a well that is to serve for Christian work. So they did not do the sacrifice despite the elders' protest.



The team began to drill as Pastor Yeo arrived. They drilled down past 80 meters and then hit rock. Pastor Yeo told the believers there to pray. While some of the drilling team wanted to move to a different location and try again, the head technician insisted that they continue. They reached 100 meters with still no water and most of the team were ready to give up, but the technician insisted that they continue a bit further.

By this time, most of the villagers were standing around watching and the Christians were praying. At 105 meters depth, they hit such a strong vein of water that even the workers bolted away from the rig in fear as fresh pure water came gushing out with force (see attached video link below). Everyone was elated and jumping for joy. The technician said that the quality and strong pressure of this water were so good that it could be bottled for sale.

The village chief was amazed and confided in Pastor Yeo that when they drilled a well at the clinic just across from our property, they had to drill three holes before finding water and it did not have anywhere near the pressure of this one. And the clinic well was with the blessing of the village gods and ancestors. So, this well will serve not only to provide the community with water, but also a testimony of God's power and provision that is greater than all other gods.

Since the drilling, the water has been analyzed in a lab and came back as being of exceptional purity and quality. A water tower with a tank and solar-powered pump is being installed to keep water available at all times. Once finished the water will be used to begin construction of the perimeter wall and then the rental shops to provide the church with some ongoing income for future projects and ministry. We thank all who have given so far to make this possible with the ultimate goal that this property will house a retreat center to serve the national church as well as other income-generating projects. There will also be a local church and literacy center.

**CLICK THE PHOTO TO SEE A VIDEO OF THE WELL:**



## WHAT YOU ARE DOING...

### Building for Eternity

We are very thankful for the amazing way that you, our supporters, have continued to maintain your level of support in the past year despite the many challenges that we have all faced. Your faithfulness has allowed us to return to the field with our budget almost entirely covered by your pledges. Still, we would like to make you aware of a new, limited-time partnership opportunity in September which will help make up the remaining amount needed to cover our full budget and allow for future changes in budget or support levels.

During this one-week Commitment Campaign, for every new or increased recurring monthly gift with their first installment given between Sept 12-18, Global Strategy will match three times the first month's contribution (or the increase). Example: For a new gift, if you send a \$100 recurring monthly gift to our project number, Global Strategy will put a one-time match of \$300 in our account. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity to help increase our support level, you can:

>>Go online to [chogglobal.org](http://chogglobal.org) and set up a recurring gift with the first payment happening the week of Sept 12-18, or

>>Call the Global Strategy office (800-848-2464) and set up a recurring gift with the first payment happening Sept 12-18.

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- \* Pray for Executive Committee meetings taking place Sept. 8 – 12.
- \* Pray for IBAO classes taking place Sept. 14 – 25.
- \* Pray for Cote d'Ivoire's national elections to proceed peacefully on Oct. 31.
- \* Pray for Bobby and Jenny Mihsill traveling on home assignment at present.

*Larry  
& LeAnn*

