June is the month with the most rainfall in Abidjan, the largest city in CI, with an average 'of 22 in. of rain!



Newsletter for March-June 2020





Bobby, Jenny, Moore & Rease Mihsill: Missionaries to Côte d'Ivoire. West Africa

#### Mihsills Learn more at: http://chogglobal.org/ bimihsill

### Outreach in Côte d'Ivoire Continues Amid Pandemic



Learn more at:

Since the beginning of the pandemic, many have searched for creative ways to connect and reach out while we couldn't gather in person. The same things were happening in Côte d'Ivoire. In March and April, our family joined in and texted, called, and even drove by homes to greet friends from our car on Easter with a sign that said "Joyeuses Pâques" (Happy Easter)! (pictured left) After our return to the U.S. in late April, we've been encouraged to see the outreach in Côte d'Ivoire continue.

Although Côte d'Ivoire has seen Covid-19 cases increase, especially in the month of June, outreach continues to the most vulnerable and to those who have not yet heard about the hope of Jesus.

The Children of Promise volunteers are continuing distributions to sponsored children and families. When necessary, they are adjusting how they carry out getting goods to families. When churches were completely closed in March and April, volunteers helped deliver food to each family's home since they could not gather together. Extra funds for food were given for each child during the most recent distribution.

Plans to begin the first phase of the project on the Lakpolo land are underway. The project manager has been in touch with the company that will drill the well. This will be the first step for the envisioned Lakpolo Ministry and Activities Center in the northern part of the country. The need for outreach in the name of Jesus is needed now more than ever. A recent attack on June 11 in this region, which sits near Burkina Faso, reminded us of the overwhelming need for the peace of Christ in this area and throughout the nation.



During this period of social distancing and the inability to gather in person, we have been especially grateful for the ongoing outreach of Christians Broadcasting Hope radio, which produces the French radio program Tribune Jeune in Côte d'Ivoire. Praise the Lord for the ways in which He works even in the midst of difficulty!



Above: A sponsored child in Korhogo receives food through Children of Promise during the May distribution.

For more information about our ministry, visit chogglobal.org/bimihsill

## A Once-In-A-Lifetime Experience



"What was it like to take a repatriation flight back to the U.S. on short notice during a pandemic?" asked a friend. Our response was, "It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that we would be okay having only once in a lifetime!"

After the Ivorian borders closed suddenly on March 22, we felt led to stay in Côte d'Ivoire rather than take a repatriation flight on March 31. When we found out three weeks later that there would be another repatriation flight, possibly the last one out until commercial air travel resumed, we decided it was time to get back and start our home assignment, even though it was a couple of months earlier than planned.

We packed and worked with local church leaders and Children of Promise volunteers to continue ministry efforts we'd been involved in while we would be absent. It was difficult to leave without getting to say goodbye to many friends in Côte d'Ivoire. At the same time, we were reminded of God's faithfulness as we saw over and over the ways that God walked with us through this experience. After taking three flights and going through four airports, we arrived in Anderson, Indiana, where we completed an 18-day self-quarantine.

If you'd like to read a detail account of our repatriation journey, visit our blog at http://themihsills.blogspot.com.

#### What Will Home Assignment During a Pandemic Look Like?

We are continually exploring what home assignment will look like over the next 12 months. Our desire during our home assignment is to connect and share in safe and effective ways. We will work individually with our partners to find ways to share, whether inperson or virtually. We've been thrilled to have already shared with some of you via Zoom call and pre-recorded video. We are preparing to share in a virtual campmeeting for the first time!

If you would like to connect with us, please contact us by phone at 765-398-4506 (cell) or by email at *jennymihsill@chog.org*. We'd love to discuss creative ways to share with you, your congregation, your Sunday school class or other group.

# Change Can Be Fun!

We're enjoying the fun things that Moore and Rease are discovering here in the U.S. that are new to them! Every Tuesday, they watch for the garbage truck to come by with its automatic "claw" to pick up the garbage can. They're constantly mesmerized by the squirrels running around in the backyard, which they love to watch out the kitchen window while eating their new favorite American treat: donuts! Rease has found that steam forms on the mirror when someone takes a hot shower. She calls it "magic," so when she hears the shower water starting, she runs into the bathroom excitedly asking, "Is there magic?!" It seems we just don't have enough cool air to make steam in

Côte d'Ivoire! Change can be hard, but change can be fun!



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For a monthly calendar of prayer requests for Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso, visit www.cichog.org and click on "Prayer Calendar."

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