



Newsletter for
Jan/Feb/March
2019



**GLOBAL
STRATEGY**
CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES

Learn more at:
<http://chogglobal.org/bjmihsill>

The Mihsills

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

Closed Doors, Open Doors

I (Jenny) had just finished packing my bag last Friday night to head out for the four-hour ride north to Niakara with colleagues Larry and LeAnn Sellers to attend the National Women's General Assembly of the CHOG. That's when I heard the news that the site reserved for the meeting and lodging had been double-booked. Where would we meet? Where would we sleep? Although the CHOG has a cell group in Niakara, they do not yet have a church building. The National Women's president, Pastor Anne, quickly went to the mayor of Niakara and asked for help. The mayor agreed to allow the women to use the meeting room at the mayor's building. We were grateful!



Above: Pastor Anne, National Women's President

We arrived at the mayor's building after the drive on the bumpy roads, and we were glad to see several delegates already there. Since there were no chairs in the meeting room, Pastor Anne had gone out to rent some while we walked around the area a bit before dinner, which was scheduled for 6 p.m. and would be followed by a worship service. As we explored, we found that although there was no running water inside the building, there was a tap at the back of the building and a neat cultural center with a small library too.

Below: Timothée and his son

It took time to find chairs for rent, and dinner was pushed back, finally being served a little after 8 p.m. We had a worship service quite late, worn out, but glad to visit with friends we hadn't seen in a long time. Later that evening, we found that when the cultural center had closed, the back door had been locked, which blocked access to the tap at the back of the building! With no water available, Pastor Anne decided to go with the leader of the CHOG cell group from the area, Timothée, (cont. on page 2)



Be a part of what God is doing in Côte d'Ivoire!
To partner with us financially, visit
give.chogglobal.org/bjmihsill

to inform the mayor of the problem. But before Pastor Anne and Timothée were able to meet and head to the mayor's home, Timothée's wife was bitten on her foot by a scorpion at her home! Timothée had to take her to the hospital right away.

The next morning, the mayor was informed of the water situation, as he had been away on Friday evening. The mayor had the gate opened, which allowed for access to water, and he apologized. Timothée then had an open door to ask for help in getting three plots of land for a church building. The cell group had been trying for a while to get the mayor's approval, but he hadn't responded yet to their request. The mayor said that if Timothée would return to see him the following week, they would go out together and find *four* plots of land for the church — the church could purchase three and the mayor would donate a fourth plot!

Timothée's wife was able to join the women's GA on Saturday morning as her foot was doing much better. There were many words of encouragement during the meeting as several current leaders were affirmed in the good work they are doing in their positions of leadership and re-elected for a second term. Pastor Anne gave testimony to the Lord working in all of the weekend's events! We had been frustrated with what seemed like problem after problem — a double-booking, no chairs, a very late meal, no water, a scorpion bite — but in the end, all of these circumstances led to an open door for the church to grow in Niakara. Praise the Lord!

What Are Holidays Like in Côte d'Ivoire?



The most widespread Ivorian tradition in celebration of Christmas and New Year's Day is an all-night church service. On Christmas Eve, we attended a service that started around 9 p.m. and went into the wee hours of the morning. Different groups, such as the youth, the women, the men, the children, led the congregation in songs and performed skits. The English class that Jenny teaches at the Yamoussoukro CHOG read the Christmas story from Luke and led the congregation in "Silent Night" in both French and English (*pictured top left*).



The day after Christmas, Mike Wagner, CHOG missionary to Japan, came for a visit. He was a very popular special guest during the Saturday English class at Yamoussoukro CHOG. Mike shared with the students about life in Japan, cultural norms, and how kanji (Japanese characters) is like small pictures (*pictured bottom left*). The students shared about Ivorian culture and what life is like in West Africa.

The students were surprised that Japanese people enjoy eating raw fish and raw horse, while Mike questioned why Ivorians would eat bush rat!

It's always a joy to learn from one another, and we certainly enjoyed having Mike here to ring in the new year!

*Will you be attending the Church of God Convention in Orlando in June 2019?
If so, we would love to connect with you! Email us at jennymihsill@chog.org.*



Church of God Ministries
PO Box 2420
Anderson, IN 46018
800-848-2464, Ext 2129
www.choglobal.org



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

Bobby & Jenny Mihsill
c/o Global Strategy

4326 S. Scatterfield Rd. #315
Anderson, IN 46013
Project #42.10027

Contact us: bobbymihsill@chog.org OR jennymihsill@chog.org