



Newsletter for  
September  
2018



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# The Mihsills

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

## A Church is Being Built!

On a Sunday morning in the village of Sinfra, about an hour and 15 minutes from where we live in Yamoussoukro, people sit shoulder-to-shoulder on backless wooden benches at the local Church of God. The church has been meeting in the living room area of the house that was built for the pastor, although they outgrew the space some time ago.

During the last two weeks of August, a team of eight people from Minnesota and Georgia came to work alongside the local congregation at Sinfra to help construct a new church building, which will give the church more space to worship and continue to grow. Jeff Vaneps led the team made up of three families: Ernie, Jason, and Ryan Knoll (three generations!); Dave and Nate Chaffin; and Tommy and Darlyne Mathewes. Each team member from the U.S. was paired with a prayer partner from the Sinfra congregation prior to the team's arrival. The friendships that grew between these brothers and sisters in Christ was an incredible thing to witness!

As the local congregation worked — women carrying water for the cement and cooking food, men laying blocks and carrying construction items — they interacted with the short-term team, and the church building walls went up. As the crowds gathered to see the activity, they witnessed the physical structure of the building, but they also were in the midst of brothers and sisters in Christ, from two different cultures, being mutually encouraged and challenged. It's God who has built the church in Sinfra, and, together, we have the opportunity to help the church — the people of God in Sinfra — to have a permanent structure where they can worship. A church is being built — not just a structure, but the people of God being built up!



*Above:* Pastor Francis leads as the work team worships together with the Sinfra congregation on Sunday, August 26.

*Below:* Working together to tie a post.



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[give.chogglobal.org/bjmihsill](http://give.chogglobal.org/bjmihsill)

# Connecting with Children of Promise



One of the best parts of our job as missionaries is helping others make connections — a connection with Christ and connections with each other. Two families who came with the work team to Côte d'Ivoire in August sponsor children here through Children of Promise. These two families had the opportunity to meet their sponsored children. The children were excited, the sponsors were excited, and we were excited! This will be a day that we will all likely remember for the rest of our lives. The care of the sponsors made an impact on the children, and the love of the children impacted the sponsors.

If you would like to sponsor a child from Côte d'Ivoire through Children of Promise, go online to [www.echildrenofpromise.org](http://www.echildrenofpromise.org) or call (765) 648-2190.

The COP program in Côte d'Ivoire now has 30 children sponsored, and it continues to grow! Recently, the Children of Promise group in the cocoa farming village of Plateforme celebrated all the sponsored children's birthdays for the year all together. Each child received a new matching outfit as a gift, and they all enjoyed birthday cake and popcorn.

Matching outfits made out of colorful African fabric are a favorite of the Ivorians; they allow for a group to be identified as connected to each other.

With the children all celebrating their birthdays on the same day, and all wearing matching outfits, our 5-year-old son Moore looked up with wide eyes as the children gathered and asked, "Mom, are they ALL twins?"



## Couples' Day Out



Over a recent holiday weekend, the Yamoussoukro Church of God invited couples from area churches to participate in a couples' day in a village outside of town. A guest speaker shared on the theme "Leaving Your Parents, Being Joined to Your Spouse, and Becoming One" based on Genesis 2:24. Fourteen couples attended, and there was animated conversation as the group shared in small groups of men and women. There were discussion periods and question-and-answer times. This is the first couples' event that we have been a part of in Côte d'Ivoire, and it was fun to get to know some couples better as well as learn some cultural elements of Ivorian family life! Would you pray for couples to put their faith in the Lord and honor one another as they face unique challenges? Thank you for partnering with us in prayer!



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For a monthly calendar of prayer requests for Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso, visit [www.cichog.org](http://www.cichog.org) and click on "Prayer Calendar."

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