

THE PATE FAMILY

CHURCH-PLANTING MISSIONARIES IN THE IVORY COAST (CÔTE D'IVOIRE)



May/June, 2023

Dear Prayer Supporters,

FAMILY UPDATE: We praise the Lord that He has chosen to bless our family with another child! Katie has recently entered her second trimester and we look forward to welcoming our new baby in the Ivory Coast sometime in the month of December. Although most of her morning sickness has subsided, please, continue to pray for a healthy and safe pregnancy for both the baby and for Katie.

On another note, we recently had new family pictures taken. If your church is interested in receiving an updated family picture, please, let me know and I would be happy to send one to you via email.

LANGUAGE SCHOOL COMPLETED: God has graciously sustained our family for the past year and we are grateful that we have now completed our official French language studies. Although we are keenly aware of our need to continue to improve in the language, we praise the Lord for allowing us to complete this phase. Please, continue to pray for our family as we desire to continue to develop our ability in the French language.

RECENT MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES: Over the past two months, we had several ministry opportunities in French here in Québec. I was able to preach four times and Katie and I were able to take three Sundays in the month of May to teach the children at the church that we've been attending. We are very thankful for the churches that have invested in us and given us opportunities to minister and gain experience in French.

Specifically, we are thankful for Pastor Fillion, his family, and their church in Coaticook, Québec. During our time in language school, they have graciously and patiently involved us in their ministry. We had a sweet time of fellowship and "goodbye" with them this week and we look forward to seeing how the Lord will continue to build His church here.

UPCOMING LITERATURE CONTAINER SHIPMENT: Periodically, I have given updates concerning an upcoming shipment of literature for the Ivory Coast. All of the literature is in-place at our sending church in NC and we anticipate loading and sending the container on July 14th. Please, pray for all of the logistics and paperwork to come together and to be processed smoothly for this shipment. We anticipate loading the container with almost 400,000 pieces of Gospel literature, totaling more than 37,000 pounds. This literature will be a great blessing both to our ministry and to the other missionaries in the Ivory Coast.

UPCOMING TRANSITION TO THE IVORY COAST: With the completion of our French language studies, we will be returning this week to our sending church in NC. We plan to spend approximately three weeks in NC making final preparations for our move to the Ivory Coast on August 1st. During the month of July, we look forward to spending some time with both our church family and with family members before our departure. Our church will also hold a commissioning service for us on July 30th.

After our arrival in the Ivory Coast, there will be many details for which we need the Lord's wisdom. We would be grateful if you would pray for these things, such as finding a house and a vehicle, completing paperwork, situating our family in our new home, beginning our ministry, etc. The Lord has raised an incredible team with which to work in the Bingerville area of the Ivory Coast. They have already been so helpful to us in this transition and we look forward to working together for the cause of Christ.

Each transition in life is accompanied by challenges. Would you pray with us that the Lord would give us grace and strength every day? Would you pray that the Lord would allow our family and children to smoothly adjust to our new life? Would you pray that the will of God would be accomplished through us and our ministry as we seek to follow His wisdom? We look forward to seeing how God will work through each of us as we continue to make much of Christ!

In Christ,

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