

# THE PATE FAMILY

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

## March-April, 2024 | Prayer Update

**NEW BELIEVERS & DISCIPLESHIP:** Throughout the first quarter of 2024, it was a blessing to see several souls saved during weekly evangelism in the nearby villages. On Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, it was a blessing to see an impromptu children's Bible club begin in the nearby village of Koffi Kro. On this day, one of the Ivorian believers was able to see four of these children make a profession of faith. On Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, during evangelism with national believers, we were encouraged to see two ladies in Anan accept Christ as their Savior. Since that time, we have had several good follow-up visits with them. On Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, our family had the joy of watching Clovice trust Christ as his personal Savior in the village of Anan (*see first photo below*). During this visit, he expressed that he had never fully understand the Gospel until our conversation with him. Because of a motorcycle accident in his youth, he has great difficulty walking; this requires a sacrifice on his part to walk to the bus stop to come to church. Despite this, he is faithful and joyful; please, pray for his continued growth in Christ. In our last prayer letter, we shared with you of the salvation of a young man named Prince (*see second photo below*). On Resurrection Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, we rejoiced to watch Prince follow the Lord in believer's baptism and also become a member of the local church here. Prince continues to grow steadily in his faith and it is a privilege to meet with him weekly in discipleship. We are reminded of the truth in I Corinthians 3:6 that some plant, some water, but it is God who gives the increase; therefore, it is God who receives the glory (II Corinthians 4.7).

In the month of March, we welcomed Missionary Kristine McLaughlin back to the Ivory Coast after her recent furlough. We praise the Lord for her faithfulness in the ministry here for the past fifteen years. With her return, she will continue to serve in other villages, while our family begins to focus our efforts in the village of Anan.



**CHURCH LAUNCH AND CONSTRUCTION IN ANAN:** On Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, after the morning service in Bingerville, we gathered the believers from the village of Anan for a meeting. We shared with them how the Lord has been answering prayer and opening doors to begin midweek services in the village of Anan. They were thrilled to hear the plans for the launch of a church in their village for which they have been praying for many years. The Lord has directed us to construct a temporary auditorium on the church property in the village. We were encouraged to see this construction begin last week (*see third photo above; Allison and Maddie are standing in the footers of the new building*). If the process continues smoothly, we anticipate this building being completed towards the end of May. This will allow us to begin midweek services in Anan towards the beginning of June. The believers in the village will continue to take public transportation to Bingerville for Sunday services, but we look forward to launching these midweek services in Anan. Please, pray with us that the Lord would give us His wisdom for each step in this church plant. In addition, please continue to pray for other ongoing evangelistic ministries in Anan: weekly evangelism and visitation, a Saturday children's Bible club, and a literacy center which meets on Wednesdays and Saturdays. We look forward to watching Christ continue to build His church here and are thrilled to have the privilege to partner with you for the cause of Christ.

In Christ,

Josh, Katie, Allison, Madelyn, and Bethanie Pate

pates2africa@gmail.com

803.351.9360

PO Box 1353 Columbus, NC 28722

www.pates2africa.com

Crossroads Baptist Church

Interim Pastor: Dr. Gary Ledbetter

PO Box 624 Columbus, NC 28722

www.CrossroadsBaptistNC.com

Baptist International Missions Inc.

423.344.5050

PO Box 9 Harrison, TN 37341

www.bimi.org | Account #1629

