October-December 2025 Volume 40 Issue 5 Project 42.10074

Sellers Sequel

Missionaries to French-Speaking Africa

Larry & LeAnn Sellers

Flourish where you are planted

Many of you may be surprised to see that we are writing this letter from the USA, as we only returned to Africa about four months ago. And those four months passed by ever so quickly. And we were so busy during this time that we did not get much news sent out to you. In our last letter we mentioned that Larry's surgery in June had delayed our return to Côte d'Ivoire until August. It also shortened our stay in Côte d'Ivoire as the doctors decided that due to the type of tumor, Larry would need to do a year of immunotherapy treatment to reduce the risk of the cancer recurring in the coming years. So when we returned to Côte d'Ivoire in August, it was with the understanding that we would have four months in which to close out our apartment and our ministries, say goodbye to our many friends and co-workers there, and then return to the USA to begin this treatment.

So on December 2, after selling and giving away our furniture, car and many personal belongings, moving out of our Abidjan apartment, and saying our goodbyes, we boarded a plane with a one-way ticket to return to Indiana. We are once again indebted to East-Side Church of God for their provision of housing for us in Anderson. Larry is having pretreatment appointments in preparation to begin immunotherapy treatment in January. While we were a bit in shock to go from 80- to 20-degree weather and then even lower to sub-zero temperatures and snow, we have enjoyed warm fellowship with our daughter and her husband, and our friends and supporters in the Anderson area at this holiday season.

In 2026, as Larry has immunotherapy treatment, we will continue our Africa Francophone Ministry thrust from our US base, doing translation, some teaching, and online connection with African leaders. We also hope to visit some of our supporting churches and individuals during this time as Larry's health permits. We are so grateful for your ongoing faithful support throughout our forty years of service wherever we have been transplanted, our ministry to French-speaking Africans now transplanted from West Africa to the Midwest USA! Thankfully with current technology we can carry out much of it from anywhere in the world via the internet. So we will seek to bloom where we have been planted.

When we used to walk on the roof of our Abidjan apartment building, we watched a small plant sprout up in the corner of the roof where there were no dirt and no care, just hot tropical sunshine with occasional downpours. It nevertheless found a way to flourish where it had been planted in this most unlikely of nurseries. This was an encouragement to us to believe that we could also find a way to flourish wherever life may transplant us, even in the unlikely nursery of preventative cancer treatment, and unclear plans for the future.

Enjoying the Journey and Embracing the Detours

In our final months in Côte d'Ivoire, the church expressed an amazing depth of gratitude and thanksgiving for our nearly thirty years of service there that truly overwhelmed us, first with a national service of recognition in Yamoussoukro, followed by several local expressions of thanks by Abidjan churches and many individuals who have been like family to us over the years. We were deeply moved by the kind words, gifts, testimonies and tears that flowed in those final weeks, that made leaving a difficult thing to do.

Our last few weeks in Côte d'Ivoire were busy with selling our things, packing up our shipment for the USA, and receiving visitors to say goodbye. But we also were involved in a funeral upcountry, dedicated three babies in Abidjan, and worked with the IBAO committee to prepare for a new group of students to begin classes next year. Our travels to other French-speaking countries were curtailed due to unrest, especially in Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Burundi. Please pray for peace and security in these volatile areas.

We pray for peace and blessing on your homes and families in this special time of year. We do not take for granted your faithful support for us in so many ways, without which our ministries would be impossible to carry out. We would appreciate your prayers as we move through this time of letting go of the past and embracing what lies ahead, which it is not always easy. May the warmth of God's love and blessing be with you!

Blessings, Larry and LeAnn

Please be aware that our personal address has changed, not only because of our departure from Côte d'Ivoire, but also due to a local address change in Anderson. Please replace the old address on Scatterfield Road with the following one for all future personal mail for us:

Larry and LeAnn Sellers
c/o Global Strategy
P.O. Box 2010
Anderson, IN 46018

Our US phone number remains:
(317)798-9791 for Larry.

Walking Alongside
THE LOCAL CHURCH GLOBALLY

Project No. 42.00074
PO Box 2420, Anderson, IN 46018
Chogglobal.org 800-848-2464
www.facebook.com/chogglobal

GLOBAL STRATEGY
CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES