

Cheri's news update

March 2019

Gracious hospitality and encouraging visits -- those are the best descriptions of the past 3 months as I've traveled to visit supporting churches, prayer partners, financial supporters and friends. I have already visited 5 states and have shared in 10 different churches. I've traveled through ice, snow and mud without incident. Thanks to all who have ministered in my life.

The next months will be filled with more of the same. I have every Sunday scheduled except Easter and Mother's Day until the end of June along with a few women's teas in May. Then I will still have 8 other churches to visit and many individual supporters. Normally I take one year to complete home assignment, but I'm trying to complete as much as possible before my official retirement date of June 30th.

Although after June 30th I will no longer be on mission support, I will be maintaining a status of "global specialist" with the mission so that I can return from time to time to Côte d'Ivoire to help with pastoral education and women's ministries. I will also be working in women's ministries through my home church, and am excited to see how the Lord will develop that opportunity. I have long had the desire to develop Bible teaching materials for women in Côte d'Ivoire, as well as here, but a priority is helping my sister care for our mother who has dementia. We are trying to keep her at home as long as possible.

My ministry partner, Gnimeni, continues to speak at a minimum of two women's conferences a month, all over Côte d'Ivoire. Many women have wept in repentance as the Holy Spirit has convicted them of their sinful lifestyles. She also counsels many women and with her husband, Doudou, they counsel many couples. Please continue to pray for their health, safety in travels, and wisdom in their ministry.

The widows' ministry continues to grow as they radiate joy wherever they go. In December, one whole church district began similar widow's groups in 10 churches. Other churches are planning to begin groups. Please continue to pray for Fanta, a key leader in this ministry. Please also pray for Fatouma as she and her husband are in the first year of ministry working with another pastor and his wife.

It has been a joy to see so many of you, and I'm looking forward to seeing more of you in the near future. Thank you for your part in what God is doing in Côte d'Ivoire.

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