

# Sellers Sequel

## Jumping for Joy



When we first moved to Cote d'Ivoire, we discovered that lizards were a part of everyday life. Sometimes they were large ones with orange heads, crawling over the outside wall, while other smaller lizards would run in and out of the house through the open doors. We normally did not mind as they kept the mosquito population down, which helped tremendously at keeping us from catching malaria. We would also enjoy watching the lizards run and skid or jump off the veranda to get away from our two German shepherds. The lizards' funny and erratic jumping and head bobbing were fre-

quent source of amusement. Their "jumping for joy" antics seemed to contradict their menacing facial expression.

While some people see the Christian life as one of sad faces and stoic demeanor, we have seen quite the contrary in the exuberant way African believers express their joy for Jesus even when their lives are hard and trouble-filled. Like the crippled beggar healed by Peter and John by the temple (Acts 3), they are quick to jump up and "enter the temple... walking and jumping and giving praise to God." This letter highlights several events that we have been a part of in the last few months that give us great cause to "jump for joy".

What a **JOY** for us to return in mid-September to Rwanda to see those we had worked with on our last trip! The pastors and leaders were ready to jump right back into studying and learning once again. We held two teachings in different parts of the country, one with Rwandan leaders and another with those from neighboring Congo. They sang, prayed and discussed God's Word with great energy and joy.

### Congolese Group



### Rwandan Group





**The view from our window in Rwanda**



**Rwandan women leaders celebrating footwashing with JOY**



**Larry teaching Rwandan leaders**

We are **Jumping with Joy** that the church in Rwanda is celebrating the purchase of property where national offices and a local church will be built, among other projects. If you would like to contribute to the development of this property, please send your gifts to Global Strategy or online marked for Congregation Development.

<https://choglobal.org/mission-projects/projects-africa/rwandacongregationaldevelopment1/>



**New Property in Rwanda**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n40UD85Golw> - Video with Pastor Charles



On Sunday, we joined a mountain village church in Rwanda, meeting in a house. Though packed into a small space, more than a hundred persons sang, danced and jumped with joy as they worshiped the Lord, with others peering in the windows and doors. Rwandans are known for their high exuberant jumping as they dance, which was quite obvious as women and young children worshiped the Lord in bounds of joy and energetic rhythms.

We moved closer to the border with DRC; so that the Congolese pastors could easily meet us just inside Rwanda for classes. Some of these pastors we have known since we lived in this area thirty years ago. We enjoyed time one on one and also meeting as a group. We were thrilled to sing



and worship in Swahili and in French as they leapt with joy as only Congolese can.

We are already planning another trip there in March to continue teaching leaders from both countries and perhaps exploring a third country for future work. Your generous giving makes these trips possible. If you would like to help with the next trip's expenses, please contribute to Africa Francophone Ministries.

<https://choglobal.org/mission-projects/projects-africa/africafrancophoneministries/>



The Church of God in Côte d'Ivoire is jumping with joy for the new Bibles and the lessons on how to use the Bible! We are so thankful for the **CWC women of the Church of God in Kentucky** who sent funds for Bibles. Larry designed lessons for the congregations to teach the believers how to use the Bible. It has been exciting to see different congregations use these to teach both adults and children.

We visited one congregation where the children recited all the books of the Bible. Another congregation held a time after service to learn the importance of studying the Bible for their Christian walk.



# Africa by Radio

Each year radio and media personnel from across Africa meet together to discuss how to reach Africa by various media for Christ more effectively. This year it was held in Côte d'Ivoire for the first time. **Three persons** from our **CBH French radio** team participated in person with eighty others from twenty-eight countries to learn and discuss how to make our media outreach more effective.



Our two technicians were asked to make presentations before the whole group and they **JUMPED** right in! All sessions were held in English and French. This annual event provides great opportunities for networking and collaborating together with others from many backgrounds.

## Happy Thanksgiving

### Praises:

- **Praise the Lord for renewed activity in the Church of God in Burundi.**
- **Praise God for the property purchased in Rwanda and preparing for future development.**
- **Praise the Lord for the property in Abidjan beginning to be developed .**

### Prayers for:

- **Children learning God's Word in Sunday school and at home.**
- **Our upcoming trip in Spring 2024 to Rwanda to do more teaching with national leaders in Rwanda and DRC.**
- **New students to answer the call to be trained at IBAO for ministry.**

## CONNECT

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**Call:** Prefer a Zoom meeting or phone call? Email us to arrange one so we can set it up.

## PARTNER

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