

Sellers Sequel

August 2006

SUMMER: HERE YESTERDAY GONE TODAY

Our summer time seems to be flying by with a lot of activities going on. It seems like just a few weeks ago that we wrote about Easter, and here it is almost September. Laura arrived home from Senegal in early June. Lee was still trying to finish his home school assignments, which he finally did. We did quite a bit of traveling in Cote d'Ivoire as a family, including visiting the rebel-held northern area. Our summer highlight was working with the visiting workteam. We are blessed to have children who enjoy being involved in ministry with us and even look forward to it.

Though our kids are now back in school and summer has come to an end for our family, it is in fact just starting for students here in CI. Many are still awaiting end of the year test results, and others have gone to visit family in other parts of the country. This is also the time for special activities for youth and children at church, such as VBS. In September, we will be holding a national leadership conference which will bring together 21 leaders from across the country for a week of intensive teaching based on the book, [The Purpose Driven Life](#).



WORKCAMP: HAVING FUN WHILE DOING WORK

Our summer was crowned with one of our family's favorite events for two weeks in July: a workcamp! Six persons from Minnesota and Georgia joined us and the Critsers for ten days of **hard work and lots of fun**. In that short period, they completely **raised the walls for a pastor's house in the town of Sinfra**, about an hour from Yamoussoukro. They also helped us **renovate a room** in our Yamoussoukro building to serve as a **recording studio**. This studio will be used to prepare French radio broadcasts of the Church of God throughout West Africa. **We express our appreciation** to the CBH Radio Ministry of the Church of God for providing funding for this studio, as well as the promise of equipment and training in the future to make the French broadcasts a reality. We must **SAY THANKS** to the **BIG HEARTED FOLKS** of the little town of **Ira, Tx**, without whose financial gift, the Pastor's house at Sinfra, would never have become a reality. **We also thank Jeff Vaneps for leading the workteam**. He is available to lead other workteams to come to Cote d'Ivoire and does an excellent job in all aspects of carrying out a workcamp. If you would like more information, please contact us.



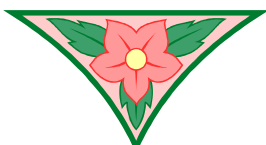
YES TO VBS

Vacation Bible Schools are now fully underway, after months of writing curriculum, planning activities, gathering prizes, purchasing supplies, planning scheduling, and training workers. VBS has already taken place in 5 churches each

YES TO VBS CONTINUED

averaging between 90 and 190 children present. Several more will take place over the next two weeks in the northern part of the country. We will give a full report once they are finished.

Exciting reports are already coming in: at one church a mother started coming to church after her children attended VBS last year. Now the father is showing interest in coming too. We are seeing record attendance at all locations. We are having to purchase more prizes, make more copies of activity sheets, etc. What a good problem to have! **Thanks to those who provided funds for VBS.** We are already planning for next year which promises to break more records. So if you would like to contribute to this vital ministry, please let us know.



OFF TO Dakar

The **hardest part of our summer** was taking our children to boarding school in far off Dakar, Senegal in early August. We traveled as a family by plane (not in da car!) through Bamako, Mali on to the hot city of Dakar. Both kids got settled into their respective dorms at Dakar Academy and are now into their second week of school. They seem to be doing quite well in their adjustment: Laura as a senior in high school and Lee in 8th grade. This is definitely hardest on the parents and is certainly **the most difficult thing that we have had to do in our 21 years as missionaries.** Our house now seems all too big and too quiet with just the two of us once again. We are already counting the days til Christmas vacation when we will see them next. It is a good thing that we have a lot to do to keep us busy and not thinking about the 1132 air miles that separate us from them all of the time. We are also thankful for phones and e-mail that keep us in touch on a daily basis.

PERSONALLY SPEAKING.....

In late September, the two of us will fly to the States as LeAnn is scheduled for surgery in Florida. Anticipating a good recovery, we plan to return to CI in early November. We would appreciate your prayers for LeAnn's surgery and rapid recovery. While in Florida, in addition to looking after LeAnn, Larry hopes to get some work done on the French version of his book on the teachings of the Church of God for African Church Leaders. Please pray for this as well.

Just a quick note, we got word that on Saturday , August 19, Laura fell and has badly sprained her ankle, she is on crutches, please prayer for a speedy recovery for her.

THANK YOU



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PRAYER

- Laura and Lee's health and protection at boarding school in Senegal while we are in the USA.
- A successful leadership conference in Sept.
- Many children to come to Christ through VBS and their families brought into the church