



# Ministry Updates

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This has been a week of continued preparation for 2017 that includes a weekend of travel for us. Verlin drives south to Abidjan to receive Debbie at the airport; Debbie voyages from Nashville on Sunday to arrive in Cote d'Ivoire Monday night. When she arrives, we will spend a week east of Abidjan to rest, reconnect, and plan together for 2017. Although eager to be back together in life and ministry, we thank the Lord for the things He helped us accomplish apart.



The rough aspect, as always, is to step through the preparations for our earthly duties with family on one continent and then leave most of them behind for another to find the greater family of which Jesus spoke to His disciples ([Luke 18:18-20](#)). For those who are curious, the separation does not necessarily get easier as the years go by. As with military life, it is just part of the calling. Having Skype available makes a difference, but hugs and touch will just have to await the invention of teleportation! On Wednesday, January 11, our beloved granddaughter Chelsea will have surgery at Vanderbilt in Nashville to shrink her tonsils. Although in most cases the tonsils would be removed, that is not possible because of interconnected issues due to her hearing impairment, her palate, and a cochlear implant. Would you pray with us that the surgery will go well and be effective without her losing ground in speech therapy?

The chains of construction that work to build a united future in Cote d'Ivoire were rattled by demobilized soldiers for a few days this week. The disturbance of the peace got them a seat at the table to discuss their grievances with the government. The display did not target local citizens, thankfully, nor does it seem to impact our ministry. It is also not the cause of any terror as experienced in Fort Lauderdale this week or in Grand Bassam last year. The worst that seems to have happened is that some regional markets were briefly closed. Verlin was even invited to teach CHE in the region where the noise sounded, the day it started, with people close to the epicenter of the rattle.

## Prayer and Praise

- 🙏 Ask that the Ivorian government will continue to work peacefully through many issues as it makes the huge effort to put into place a more equitable and prosperous democracy. Pray that the spread of the gospel is never hindered.
- 🙏 Pray that Chelsea's surgery goes well, that her recovery is without complication, and that God's peace guard the hearts of Suzanne, Cason, and the rest of us who intimately love this miracle child of modern medical grace.
- 🙏 Ask that our retreat will be a Spirit-filled time of rest, reconnection, and help to prioritize and plan our many responsibilities in 2017. It is a beautiful burden to have so much to do, and we want it all to be accomplished in the Lord's timing and for His glory. We consider ourselves as useful catalysts more than as reagents of change th as God does the work of bringing people to Himself by our joint obedience.

Your partners in the gospel,

*Verlin and Debbie Anderson*

Last written: Ending Well [Anderson WEEKLY 161231](#) or [PDF](#)

Last video: [DMM \(YouTube\)](#) - [Anderson WEEKLY 160611](#)

2016 2Q Report: [Farming 101\(web\)](#) - [161119.pdf](#)

2016 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2016](#)

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