



## Pray for Us

Jack and Cathy Carlos will be serving in Guinea, West Africa as missionaries to the Maninka people, joining Tim Norton and family and Andrea Herman in Siguiri. Their ministry will incorporate basic health care education with the Gospel message. What a wonderful way to show the love and healing power of Jesus!

Jack and Cathy served in Africa from 1998 to 2000 after Jack received his degree as director of Christian outreach at the Oswald Hoffmann School of Christian Outreach at Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota. They lived in four different countries and first worked with Liberian refugees and then later with the Maninka.

They have two children. Raymond is attending Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, studying to become an EMT. Hannah is a junior at Kennedy High School in Bloomington.

“We have a long road ahead of us - fundraising, medical classes, French language education, and finally moving to Guinea where we will learn the Maninka language. Even with all this to think about, we are not discouraged. We know that there are so many people who will be lifting us up in prayer and supporting us financially so we can do the work that God has called us to do.

Your Kansas District has been an amazing support to the work in Guinea over the years and we are excited to join with you and the rest of the Guinea team to do God’s work. We pray that you will continue this important partnership and that we will be able to get to know many of you in a more personal way as our journey to Guinea continues.”

Please pray that Jack and Cathy will:

- learn the necessary health care education skills to benefit the Maninka people
- learn the French and Maninka languages
- build relationships with the Maninka that will result in the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus.

**Birthdays:** Jack - Jan. 8, Cathy - Oct. 13, Raymond - July 7, Hannah - Dec. 20. **Wedding Anniversary:** Aug. 1

**Email:** carlostribe@hotmail.com



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# The Maninka People

The Maninka people are a widespread Muslim people group found throughout West Africa. About two million Maninka live in Guinea.

The Maninka speak a Manding language that is also called Maninka. Manding languages are spoken in many of the West African nations. Although French is the official language of Guinea, 30 ethnic languages are spoken.

Most Maninka live in villages in round, thatch-roof huts made of mud and sun-dried brick. Few of the homes have electricity or running water. The Maninka primarily work as farmers, miners or merchants.

A typical Maninka meal consists of steamed rice covered with a spicy stew of vegetables and meat or fish. Mangoes, bananas, oranges, papayas and cashews add balance to their diet.



The Maninka people identify strongly with the religion of Islam, but many continue to practice and mix in their traditional animistic beliefs. Divination, healing and the casting of spells are all important parts of their religion. Fear plays a big role in the spiritual lives of the Maninka. It is not uncommon for someone to first pray in the village mosques and then sacrifice a chicken to the spirit of the land on which his village rests. Practically every villager has at least one or two charms in his possession.

The Maninka are an unevangelized people group, with Maninka Christians representing less than a fraction of 1% of the population. Missionary Tim Norton has been working in the villages around Siguiri, using chronological Bible story teaching with Abraham and the prophets through the time of Christ. This teaching is done in conjunction with literacy lessons, using Bible memory verses as texts. The N’Ko language is spoken, but few know how to read and write it. Jack Carlos will be working with Tim Norton, adding the teaching of basic medical skills. Cathy Carlos will join Andrea Herman in outreach to Maninka women.

How can you help?

- Ask the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into Guinea.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to grant wisdom and favor to the mission agencies that are targeting the Maninka.
- Pray for the effectiveness of the *Jesus* film among the Maninka.
- Pray that God will give the Maninka believers boldness to share Christ with their own people.

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