

October 2008

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Greetings from Minnesota! Let us introduce ourselves to you. Cathy and I live in Bloomington and have two wonderful children. Raymond graduated from high school last year and is studying to be an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Hannah is a junior in high school.

We are thrilled and honored by the calls extended to both of us to serve as missionaries in Guinea, West Africa. We served in Africa from 1998 to 2000 after Jack completed his coursework at the Oswald Hoffmann School of Christian Outreach at Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota. We lived in four different countries and first worked with Liberian refugees and then later with the Maninka. It was our hope to serve the Lord there for many years.

Unfortunately, we left the field sooner than we had envisioned because of some family issues.

Since leaving Africa, God has guided us as we have served churches in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota. We learned so much in our years doing ministry in the United States but have always held the hope in our hearts that we would someday be able to return to Africa. Well, God answers prayers, and we are on our way!

When we were in Africa before, we had several opportunities to help some of our Muslim brothers and sisters with basic medical concerns. These opportunities opened huge doors for us to show them the love and healing power of Jesus. Since that time we have thought that a ministry that could incorporate basic health care education and the Gospel message could be a very effective way to reach out to the Maninka. It is this type of work to which we are being called.

We have a long road ahead of us before that can happen; 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.

Living in the Love of Jesus,

Jack & Cathy Carlos

