

Church Planting in  
**MADAGASCAR**



May 2019



Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that we are already in the month of May! We celebrated our 1-year wedding anniversary and had a "honeymoon" (as Abby says), while Richard's parents watched the kids. We enjoyed spending some time together. 😊

We are getting excited to be heading to Africa! We purchased our tickets to go to the Ivory Coast flying out of New York (because tickets are cheaper from there) on May 27th, which is in just a few short weeks! Things are coming together for us to leave the States making our departure seem more real! We have quite a few pieces of luggage packed and weighed ready to go. We are getting visas, wrapping up paperwork and things of that nature.

As was mentioned in the last letter, we are planning to have our baby in the Ivory Coast with Ruth's mom who is a nurse and a midwife. We will stay in the Ivory Coast for about 3 months after the baby is born to allow Ruth to recover, the baby to gain strength, Richard to have enough time in the country to get a grasp on the French language, and to allow the kids to accomplish a significant part of their school. With all the traveling and moving that we have been doing, we have not been doing homeschool. We have been on a "summer break," and will be ready to get started on school once we arrive in the Ivory Coast.

We believe that Ruth adopting the children and becoming their legal mother and guardian is important not only for the unification of our family, but also for practical things such as traveling and healthcare. If Ruth becomes the adoptive mother of the kids, she would not have to get permission from me to make decisions about the kids' care. Also, there would be no differentiation between the kids that we have now and the ones that might be born in the future. Our desire is for our family to be united and for there to be no division. Similar to the way that new parents eagerly look forward to the birth of a child, we look forward to the conclusion of this adoption process as Ruth becomes the adoptive mother of the kids.

Please continue to pray with us about the adoption process. This process is expected to take 3 to 4 months to complete; and because we will be in the Ivory Coast, the majority of it will be done while we are out of country. We have signed papers and will have done everything that is needed to complete the process. Please just pray that everything goes smoothly. Near the end of the adoption process, Ruth and the kids need to appear in court before the judge. We will be returning to the States November 12th and be in the States for about a month and a half to complete the adoption and get visas for Madagascar. We will also be able to get some things for the new baby as we do not know whether this baby is a boy or a girl. Lord willing, we will then have everything done and be able to leave for Madagascar.

Thank you again so much for your prayers!

Richard and Ruth Jertberg  
Matthew, Sarah, Nate, Abby, Kezia, and baby



**Our Contact Info:**

jertberg@mad4christ.org  
(470) 266-9597

**Sending Church:**

North Point Baptist Ch.  
4980 University Pkwy.  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106  
(336) 767-8297

**Mission Board:**

Baptist Missions to  
Forgotten Peoples, Inc.  
P.O. Box 37043  
Jacksonville, FL 32236  
(904) 783-4007