



Ministry Updates

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Taste and See ([Psalm 34:8](#))

The profusion of flowers and chocolates that punctuate the modern Valentine's Day really has little to do with the life of its namesake, who lived during the Roman Empire. [Saint Valentine](#) became widely known for marrying Christian couples in secret against the wishes of the pagan government. His commitment to **restore** the God-ordained covenant of marriage eventually led to his martyrdom, a price he willingly paid. Valentine's Day seems much better represented in doing the hard, messy, time-consuming, and sometimes sacrificial things that Godly love entails. Retired missionary friends taking time from their day to help Debbie transfer a load of her Dad's belongings to storage on Friday stimulated her to think of [philia](#) and [agape](#) love.



Dr. Luc on [website](#)

The holiday also reminds us to pray for our dear friends in Abidjan, Dr. Luc and Deborah Kouadio, who lead the [ARC-en-Christ](#) (ARC). It is an alliance of people dedicated to **restoring** couples who recognize that their marriages are troubled. The year-round fellowship and training include pre-marital and family counseling with Bible study. He is the visionary university leader whom God used to establish CHE training amidst national public health department leaders and researchers in Abidjan. Every year since 2015, this NGO has lodged, fed, and otherwise served the ten to twenty CHE trainers who arrive in September to facilitate the week-long training sessions. ARC faces a dilemma with their ministry: the lease ends this summer on the property they have rented for three years. For some years, they have prayed, saved money, and sought to build a permanent property, but the vision has yet to come to fruition. Properties in Abidjan often have two or three entities claiming ownership. Even if you get legitimate paperwork through the

arduous, costly, and slow process, local contestants may damage any investments a purchaser makes to show their discontent. Dr. Luc has expressed concern that their ministry may not have a defined spot to receive guests when the CHE training rolls around again. Verlin has assured him that arrangements can be made as in 2013 and 2014, although it would not meet their incredible standard of generosity and excellence. (*Verlin reserved a space and arranged for food before returning.*) As they labor to **restore** couples in troubled marriages and disciple believers, we pray their closing process on property finishes calmly, and soon.

Come and See ([Psalm 66:5](#))

Verlin continues in other ministry obligations and in preparing our place to receive Debbie's dad. This week, he had to replace or **restore** wood on our entry stairs and deck to keep it safer for longer. The 100 sq. ft guest bedroom needs clearing, and bookcases moved to make the single-wide trailer more senior-living friendly. Our home is not a permanent solution for Eddie but a respite until an appropriate place is found. Debbie is weary from exhausting days but is grateful for family members and many friends who devote hours to help when they can.

Prayer and Praise

🙏 Thank you for continuing to pray for all aspects of the West African CHE Internship in Ghana. Although Verlin will not participate this March except perhaps by video conference, we hope to keep aware of some activities and developments via WhatsApp.

🙏 Pray the needed legal paperwork with community endorsement happens soon for the marital ministry of **Arc-en-Christ** to build on permanent property in Abidjan. Their rental contract ends this coming July.

🙏 The race is on to get Debbie's dad, Eddie Payne, out of his apartment on Feb. 28. Thanks to the gracious help of family and numerous friends, two storage areas are almost empty, and about 2/3 of his belongings are properly stored. Pray that we perceive the Lord's leadership clearly and finish the task on time.

Your partners in the Gospel, Verlin & Debbie

Last Week: [Many Hands-250208.PDF](#)

Prior videos: [Worth](#) - [Simple Servants](#)

2023 Q2Report: [Pruning Priorities](#) -
[2023 Q2 Report 230722 PDF](#)

'22 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2022](#)

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