



# the HOLMES FAMILY

YOUR MISSIONARIES IN  
NIGERIA, WEST AFRICA

November/December 2025

Dear Praying Friends,

## Conferences/Camps

At the beginning of November, I traveled with Missionary Evangelists Jim Belisle and Denton Bell for a special meeting in Ibadan. I was honored to preach the anniversary service at Independent Baptist Church of Ijokodo, which had been planted 38 years before by my missions mentor who eventually hosted our survey trip, Missionary Mark Sigstad. At the anniversary and during that Tuesday's pastors' fellowship, touching tributes were made to Bro. and Mrs. Sigstad, who graduated to Heaven in July. At the end of the month, a Thanksgiving service was held at Truth Baptist Church as the start of our Spirit Renewal Meeting with Evangelist Paul Schwanke; this was the second time for him to preach a revival and teach two days at our college. Victoria and I had our flight to Tanzania while Bro. Schwanke was departing for America. The second S.M.I.T.E. in Morogoro was a great success, and we are privileged to partner with the Wyatts in these Youth Camps.

## Family News

New and old traditions were kept during Thanksgiving and Christmas. For the second time, our family traveled about five hours by road with the Langs and Ms. Pat Hamburg to celebrate Turkey Day hosted by the Youngs (who worked with us for nearly two years) in Jos. The week was filled with great fellowship, a chili cookoff, football games, and an old-fashioned holiday dinner. In December, our family used Christmas Eve for gift exchanging and a special breakfast, because Christmas Day was fairly busy with a morning service at Truth Baptist and then a missionary fellowship at our home with chili and gumbo. Sabrina and I stayed up very late that evening so that we could be on a video call to witness our oldest child Joseph proposing to his now-fiancée, Joy Waddington. We are thrilled to soon "officially" have Joy as a part of the Holmes family. New Year's Eve allowed us to welcome our second son Brian for his first visit back to Nigeria, just in time to fulfill another tradition of spending a few festive nights at an area hotel.

## Current Events

Nigeria continues to be highlighted in the news as the world is increasingly made more aware of the persecutions and regional conflicts occurring throughout the country. Especially during this time, please consider our City of Refuge; this ministry to persecuted peoples is now rehabilitating 13 families who have been affected by the insecurity in surrounding areas. Through our work, 11 former Muslims have been enrolled as students in our Bible college, and we have seen the first graduates leave Abuja and plant churches in 3 areas where no Baptist church had been started before. Pray that we can get a few offerings or monthly supports for this ministry, since the requests for help have been increasing. We're grateful for your partnership!

Believing God,



Mark Holmes, written 31 December 2025; WhatsApp +1.228.209.4625  
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