

The Mach Family

Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), W. Africa

January/February 2026

Dear Family and Friends,

After a terrific Christmas with all our children and grandson, Becky, Morganne, and I returned to reporting back to our supporting churches. During January and February, we visited with fourteen of our churches in Ohio, New York, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. We have thoroughly enjoyed these meetings as well as rejoicing with these church as to what the Lord has accomplished in the Ivory Coast. As it stands, we will report to six more supporting churches this furlough.


I mentioned in my last prayer letter that I thought my treatment for PMR would conclude in February or March. This assumed that I would decline in my prednisone doses from 10 mgs to 0 mgs at the same rate that I had declined from 20 mgs to 10 mgs. However, I have since learned that the decline from 10 mgs to 0 mgs is extended using smaller incremental declines over a longer period per decline. As such, the treatment will run through October. We had already been planning our return to the Ivory Coast for mid-April.

While speaking with my doctor, I asked if our consultations from April and continuing could be conducted via Zoom from the Ivory Coast. She felt this was not a good idea. There are several blood tests to do during the treatment as well as physical exams of my joints. There may be a need for x-rays. As well, my PMR diagnosis is a "default" diagnosis that will not be confirmed until I am much closer to the end of the treatment. It could end up being a different medical problem, or the PMR itself could flare up again.

After conferring with my pastor and discussing the situation with my director, we have concluded that we should remain stateside until I complete the treatment. My rheumatologist believes that this treatment could put my condition into remission at which point I would need no more treatment. The problem would be resolved. We are praying for this so that I would have no need to take immune suppressing drugs, something that would complicate living in a tropical country.

I will be taking a four-week trip back to Ivory Coast from mid-April to mid-May to take care of immigration needs, vehicle needs, construction needs, Bible Institute needs, and housing needs. It will allow me to accomplish some necessary things that will become quite complicated if they remain unattended until October. I am happy to answer any questions that you might have. Thanks much for your prayers.

Most sincerely in Christ,



Robert C. Mach

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Book: [WITH A PURPOSE: The ministry of the Bob Mach family in the Ivory Coast: Roark, Monroe: 9798551713340: Amazon.com: Books](#)

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