

THINK GLOBALLY. DRESS BEAUTIFULLY. MAKE A DIFFERENCE



FRANCIS+BENEDICT

Togo Prayer Journal

**Matthew 28:19-20**

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”





# FRANCIS+BENEDICT

## WHO ARE WE?

For-Profit + Non-Profit

Francis + Benedict is a business and partnership empowering the leaders, Francis and Benedict Avoyi, to continue to make a generational impact in Togo, West Africa.



As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and a separate For-profit LLC, Francis + Benedict exists to empower and equip skilled Togolese sewists with dignified and sustainable employment. In addition, our profits are used to resource community leaders in Togo, enabling them to continue projects that benefit orphans, widows, and those suffering in poverty.

**Think Globally. Dress Beautifully. Make A Difference.**

# Day 1

## Our Hearts For Togo - Travail, Liberte, Patrie



Togo, nestled in West Africa, is a country of contrasts, with around 8 million people. Its diverse culture is shaped by various ethnic groups, such as the Ewe, Mina, and Kabiye, each contributing distinct languages and traditions. Religious affiliations in Togo encompass Christianity, Islam, and indigenous beliefs, fostering a rich tapestry of spiritual practices. Despite its cultural richness, Togo faces economic challenges, ranking among the lower-income nations globally, highlighting the pressing issue of poverty within its borders. The national motto is Travail, Liberte, Patrie - Work, Liberty, and Homeland.

- Will you help us pray for the work being accomplished in Togo?
- Will you help us pray for the hearts of the Togolese citizens, both men and women?
- Will you help us pray for the Togo nation, including their land and natural resources?



# Day 2

## Avoyi Family - Francis & Benedict



Dr. Francis Avoyi is a leader with Pioneers, an international mission organization focusing on Sub-Saharan Africa, where he supervises operations across the region. His responsibilities encompass mentoring church planters, overseeing church establishment and growth, and managing various entrepreneurial ventures and construction projects.

Married to Benedict for 23 years, they have three children. Driven by compassion for the marginalized, Dr. Avoyi's endeavors extend beyond his family, including support for widows, orphans, and street children through church-based foster care initiatives since 1995.

- Will you pray today for Dr. Francis and Benedict, their family, the mission work of Pioneers, their compassion outreach programs, and their future partnership with F&B?

# Day 3

## Walters Family



Katie Walters, the founder and visionary of Francis + Benedict, was inspired by God's calling for the women of Togo during her visit in July 2015. Francis + Benedict blends her passion for high-quality, stylish clothing with empowering women globally to fulfill their God-given potential. Her husband, Josh, has now joined as the Executive Director of the Non-profit arm of Francis + Benedict.

- Will you pray today for Josh, Katie, their family, and their vision, mission, and purpose for F&B?
- Will you pray for their ministry at Seacoast in Charleston, South Carolina?
- Will you also pray for their travels to and from Togo throughout this next year?



# Day 4

## Transportation Initiative



Togo reports 198k vehicles, 73% being motorbikes, in a population of 8.2 million, equating to just over 2% owning transportation. Rain creates potholes on most roads, complicating both driving and walking. Every minute is crucial when juggling childcare, household chores, and work. Your donation provides personal transportation to our sewists, saving valuable time. For example, Jeanette, a sewist for five years, used to spend three hours walking to work; now, she drives in 30 minutes.

- Today, will you help us pray for our transportation initiative?
- Please pray that F + B will receive the funds needed for additional motorbikes.
- Also, pray for the safety of our sewists as they travel to and from work.

# Day 5

## Education Initiative



Once essential life needs are secured, access to education becomes the most significant luxury in Togolese culture, offering a pathway to generational transformation. Your contributions enable professional development and opportunities for higher education, covering school fees and supplies for our sewists and their children.

- Will you pray today for our education initiative to be fully funded in 2024?
- Pray specifically for the monetary funds needed to donate school supplies to the street children.
- Please also pray for the younger generation in Togo that they may be inspired by faith and receive quality education for a bright future.



# Day 6

## Nutrition Initiative



Research indicates adequate nutrition is fundamental for survival, health, and progress. Children who receive proper nourishment excel academically, develop into robust adults, and offer their children a stronger foundation. Similarly, well-nourished women experience fewer complications during pregnancy and childbirth, leading to healthier developmental trajectories for their children, both physically and mentally. Our nutrition program ensures that our sewists and their families receive daily meals. Your contributions also enable us to conduct food drives supplying meals to street children and disadvantaged villages in the vicinity.

- Today, will you help us pray for the future of our nutrition initiative?
- Please pray that our efforts to feed the hungry continue to impact Togo for the glory of God!

# Day 7

## Health Savings Initiative



In Togo, 383 registered doctors serve a population of 8.8 million. A tremendous issue for Togo is the overwhelming lack of medical care. Proximity and financial constraints further complicate access to healthcare. With no middle class, extreme wealth and poverty define the landscape, limiting healthcare access to those who can afford it. Pastors often serve as the first point of contact in emergencies.

- Will you pray today for Dr. Francis as he serves as the medical liaison for our sewists and their families?
- Will you pray that we can continue offering medical care and outreach to those affiliated with F + B?
- Will you pray for the overall medical situation in Togo?

# Scriptures for Prayer

United States, Togo, and the World

## **Matthew 25:39-40**

“And when did we see the sick or in prison or visit you?” And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me.’”

## **Psalms 106:47**

“Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to Your holy name and glory in Your praise.”

## **John 3:16-17**

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.”

## **Psalms 86:9**

“All the nations You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name.”



# Day 8

## Togo's Government



The government of Togo, situated in West Africa, operates within a framework defined by its constitution. The President oversees various governance sectors, from finance to infrastructure, assisted by appointed ministers. The government of Togo is accountable to its citizens, tasked with fostering economic growth, maintaining social stability, and advancing the welfare of its populace.

- Will you pray for the wisdom and integrity of Togo's political leaders, that they may govern with justice and fairness?
- Will you pray for economic stability so individuals and families can experience God's provision and prosperity?
- Will you pray to end corruption so that integrity and honesty may characterize all levels of society?



# Day 9

## Advocate Sisterhood



As advocates for Francis and Benedict, we embody their vision and mission within our communities, sharing the inspiring Togo story and promoting these exquisite products. Collaborating closely with the talented sewists in Togo, we work tirelessly to amplify their craftsmanship and empower their livelihoods. Together, we contribute to the divine work of transforming lives in West Africa.

- Today, we ask for your prayers for the advocates traveling to Togo, for those passionately sharing the vision and mission of this ministry, and for the continued expansion of the sisterhood, magnifying the global impact of Francis and Benedict.

# Day 10

## Global Unity



Global unity between Togo and the United States is crucial for the advancement and well-being of the Togolese people. Collaboration between these nations can bring significant benefits, including economic growth, technological advancement, and cultural exchange. By fostering strong diplomatic ties and engaging in mutually beneficial partnerships, both countries can leverage their strengths to address pressing issues such as poverty, healthcare access, and education in Togo.

- Please help us pray for continued cooperation in areas such as trade and investment.
- Please help us pray that F + B can continue fostering global solidarity and interconnectedness between sewists and advocates.
- Will you also pray for the US Ambassador to Togo and her connection to F + B?

# Day 11

## Faith & Fashion



For consumers, the fusion of faith and fashion in support of ethical work among sewists offers a profound avenue to align their values with purchasing decisions. They find resonance in garments crafted with intention, embodying principles of compassion and justice. By supporting these sewists, consumers become part of a movement that advocates for fair treatment of workers and sustainable production processes. Each purchase becomes a statement of solidarity, a tangible expression of their beliefs in action. They appreciate the stories woven into the fabric, recognizing the interconnectedness of their spiritual journey with the global community. Through their choices, consumers adorn themselves and contribute to a collective effort to transform the fashion industry into one that reflects their deepest convictions and aspirations for a better world.

- Today, will you stop and pause to pray for the global operations of F + B?
- Please pray that our consumer impact continues creating generational change for all of Togo!

# Day 12

## Empowerment of Women



In recent years, Togo has been ranked 134th out of 162 countries on the UN Women's Gender Inequality Index. This index measures disparities between women and men in the following areas: 1. Reproductive health, including maternal mortality rate and adolescent birth rate. 2. Empowerment, such as the share of parliamentary seats held by women. 3. Educational attainment, which considers the population with at least some secondary education. 4. Labor market participation, including the labor force participation rate.

- Today, will you join us in specifically praying for the women and children of Togo?
- Please pray for our ministry outreach efforts for widows and street children!
- Please visit [givefrancisandbenedict.com/togoteam](http://givefrancisandbenedict.com/togoteam) to pray specifically for our sewists by name!



# Day 13

## Future Generations



In a developing country, constructing a home extends into several generations. One generation lays the foundation, another builds the walls, and so forth. Our focus in 2024 is to finalize the sewist housing project, ensuring multiple generations enjoy a completed home with essential amenities: clean water, electricity, air conditioning, and secure doors. Located in Lomé near key facilities, the homes promise safety and stability. Surveying is done, and construction is underway. With \$25k, we can build a 2-bedroom home, instantly providing peace of mind and generational impact. We aim to surprise seven sewists with their own homes in December 2024. **Praise the Lord, five out of seven homes are fully funded!**

- Will you help us pray for the funding of the two final houses?
- Will you help us cover in prayer all these seven houses that will transform the life of a seamstress and her family forever?
- Please pray for God's blessings on the future generations called to serve through F + B!

# Day 14

## Skirt Sales = Future Hope



Advocates in the United States play a pivotal role in supporting the sewists in Togo by selling Togolese products, particularly brightly colored wax-print skirts adorned with African designs. This initiative aims not only to showcase the rich cultural heritage of Togo but also to provide sustainable income opportunities for talented sewists. The process begins with directly purchasing fabric from the bustling markets of Togo, ensuring that the economic benefits reach local vendors. The fabric is then skillfully hand-sewn into stunning dresses by the sewists, showcasing their craftsmanship and dedication. Each sale celebrates Togolese artistry and creates a pathway to future hope and income for the sewists in Togo, empowering them to build better lives for themselves and their communities.

- Will you help us pray for the sales of F+B?
- Please pray that we make and break sales goals throughout 2024 to fund all initiatives fully!

# What's Next

## Building Connections



a new kind of missionary  
*generational change starts here*

Through the efforts of Francis and Benedict, advocates in the United States contribute to promoting sustainable livelihoods and economic empowerment in Togo, fostering a meaningful connection between distant communities united by a shared commitment to positive change.

We are **THINKING GLOBALLY, DRESSING BEAUTIFULLY, AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE** here in the United States and Togo, West Africa!

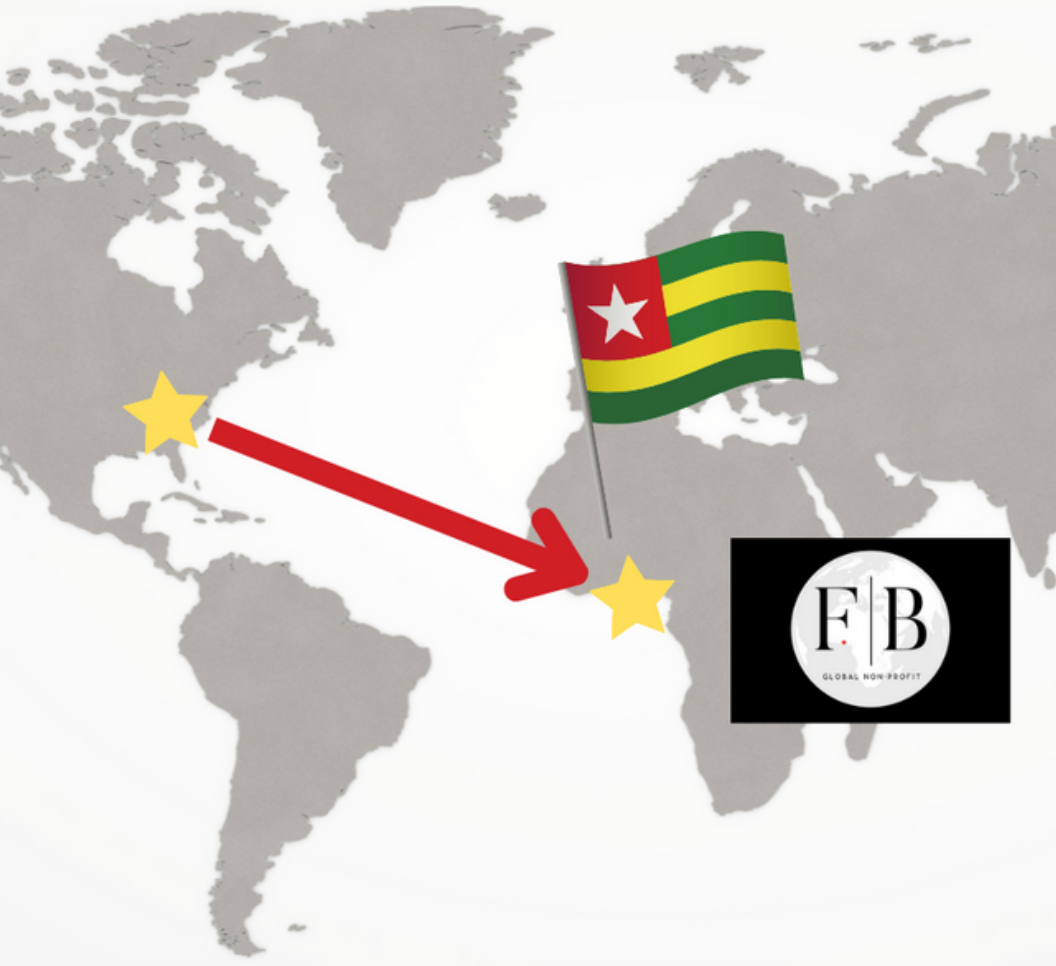
Thank you for praying with us through this journal!

**Together,**  
**WE are a new kind of missionary!**



# Making A Difference

## Sending Others



### **John 20:21-22**

“He (Jesus) spoke to them again and said, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ Then He breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit...”







lets keep in touch

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