



Dear friends and family, **HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026!** Though today is already February 1st as I write this, I am carrying on the French expectation of wishing *Bonne Année* to everyone the first time they see them in the New Year.

A lot happened in January! Our son Thomas visited with us here for two weeks. He arrived from Michigan on January 2, so we were able to spend the Epiphany holiday with him. Three Kings' Day was the big gift-giving day of the Christmas holidays in Spain when our kids were growing up, so we enjoyed



continuing that tradition with the five of us back together again this year. We also had a special Epiphany carol service at our church.

That made up for what had happened on Christmas Eve, when our car broke down on our way to the evening carol service. Because of the holidays, and sudden snow paralyzing our part of France, and refusal by the first two garages the tow truck took our car to, we did not get our car back for over three weeks. Thankfully, we were able to rent the car owned by our office for part of that time. Meanwhile, I was able to give taxi drivers, tow truck drivers, and mechanics digital copies of *Augustine, Son of her Tears* (an evangelistic film produced by our colleagues here). The mechanic

was particularly appreciative! I am in a lifelong process learning to always look for how the Lord is working in every situation. Let me encourage you to take every opportunity God gives you to talk about Jesus, or even leave a little card with a QR code to media that will tell people about Jesus, or an app on your phone like the Jesus Film Media app (see www.jesusfilm.org!).

Back to work: in January, Deedee organized and led three days of online Crisis Management training, covering 8 updated sessions for current and new Crisis Managers serving throughout our region. The next 3 days of training with more advanced content will need to be held in person later this spring. ***Please pray Deedee's team can complete all needed plans and preparations for that training, very soon.***

Next, for her other major role, Deedee flies to Kenya later this week for a face-to-face conference with the national prayer coordinators throughout our region. ***Please pray for her safe travel, and for the conference. Pray also for the NAMESTAN Regional National Leaders who are also meeting in Nairobi around the same time.***

In my Global Finance work, I (Allen) have added a new mission initiative of a hospitality house in Italy, as well as the accounting for our old Eastern Europe office, to the ministries that I am serving. ***Please pray that I would lead my team in the Holy Spirit's power and with His direction in prayerfulness and integrity.***

Please pray for our family, that the Lord will protect each of us and all of our coming and going, and that He will direct every part of our lives for the glory of His name.

Deedee and I deeply appreciate your continued participation in ministry with us. We pray the Lord will greatly bless you throughout 2026!

Serving with you,

Allen and Deedee