



The Haley Family *Mike, Cindy & Emily*

Missionaries In Botswana

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December 2020 Year End Report

2021 – HAPPY NEW YEAR

Here in Botswana, it's 12:35 am January 1, 2021 and I purposed in my heart to spend the turn of the year with you in spirit and in letter. We're between 7 and 11 hours ahead of most of you in the US and Canada so your New Year is yet to come. As I write we're hearing the deep thundering echoes of fireworks – big ones – that neighbors all around are setting off. It sounds like a battlefield. I didn't know you could get those in Botswana but be sure that next year I'll have my share and get in on that act. Our poor little dog, Mocha, has been going nuts barking at every report. My phone is dinging repeatedly with text messages from our church family and friends sending out New Years greetings. Because of Covid precautions we are/have been under a 7 pm curfew imposed from December 24th to January 3rd so the streets are eerily empty and the military and police is out patrolling everywhere. In a few minutes, I'll go to my knees and will be praying for you our dearest family of friends, prayer warriors, and partners in the work of the gospel. I cannot express enough how endeared you are to our hearts and how thankful and humbled we are by your faithfulness to our family and this ministry. Our prayer for you is that 2021 will prove to be one of if not the greatest year of your life. We pray for your family, your church and ministry, your home and marriage, your health and prosperity, and most of all that God's grace and greatest blessings will be poured out upon you in this coming year. We prayed for you on Christmas day and trust that your Christmas celebrations were filled with the presence of Christ as you worshipped the Savior who is Christ the Lord.

I must admit that I am horribly behind on correspondence so please pardon the unusual length of this particular letter. The past several weeks have been overwhelmingly hectic but God has been so faithful to give us strength and safety. **Ms. Pamela Wieler arrived a few days before Christmas!!** She has already been a tremendous blessing to us all and we are excited about having her here in Botswana as a co-laborer and treasured friend. For weeks now we have been preparing for her arrival. The Lord provided her a great house to rent but a vacant lot beside the house had to be cleared of brush, several large trees and extensive security measures (electric and razor wire fencing, an alarm system and security lights, etc.) had to be installed to ensure her safety. We've spent a lot of time recently on the end of a chainsaw, climbing in the tops of high trees cutting and clearing and burning brush. At 50 years old I still enjoy such work but – OH MERCY – do I ever "feel it" at the end of the day. Cindy, Emily and many in our church worked hard cleaning the house and preparing for Ms. Pamela's arrival and we're so thankful to have her mostly settled into a safe, clean, and comfortable home. **Please pray for her personally as she adjusts to her new life here, for her vehicle purchase, her permits to be approved, and for the timely arrival of her crate shipped from the US. Pray that we, as a family, will continue to be a blessing to her and sensitive to her needs. We have gone from being a single family to a team and are all going through a season of adjusting to a new normal.**

Ms. Monica, who will be with us for four months, is set to arrive in a little more than a week. We are equally excited about her arrival and the new dimension she will add to the ministry here. These ladies are a precious answer to our many prayers for the Lord to send co-laborers to Botswana and having them here in spite of the Covid craziness we're experiencing around the world is nothing short of a miracle. **Please pray for Monica to have safe travel, for her luggage to arrive with her and intact, and for the Lord to use this time in her life to confirm His will for her future.** In a few months we hope to welcome Brother Catalino from the Philippines with his family to arrive later and in June we anticipate the arrival of the Krauss family from Germany. The Lord is putting together a TEAM of co-laborers and I believe 2021 will be the most fruitful and fantastic year of ministry we have ever known.

Well – KEEP READING – there is some REALLY EXCITING news to share just ahead. In spite of all the challenges and seeming setbacks that 2020 brought with Covid I have to say that we are probably in a much greater place than I ever thought we'd be in regards to the momentum of the ministry here. The church is strong and flourishing. We have had an abundance of first time visitors in recent weeks. Throughout the holidays we have been able to cultivate deep relationships with our neighbors and some of their acquaintances, all in the hopes of leading them to Christ. Gary, Fatima and their son Ricki have become like a second family to us; the bonds are that tight. They have been in church five of the past seven weeks and I anticipate that

they will soon come to a saving knowledge of the Savior. Their son recently remarked that ours was the first church they have ever attended in their life and that everything they are experiencing is totally new to them. **Please pray for the salvation of all of these with whom we have made some great inroads with: Gary, Fatima, and Ricki, / Freddie, Ellen, and their son Alwyn / Albertus & his dad and mom / Stewart / Mr. and Mrs. Simon.** Sunday, we are scheduled to meet and have lunch with another family recently arrived from the US. Toviah is Jewish and admits to being accepting of all religions and his wife is Liberian and according to Toviah is “a really dedicated Christian lady”. We look forward to this appointment and ask you to pray for it as well.

STAY TUNED – that BIG NEWS is coming. Two years ago we did a huge distribution of New Testaments passing out several thousand at traffic stops as people left the city for Christmas. One lady, Mary, was here in the capitol city on business and received a NT. Mary works in the prison system in Ghanzi in the northwest of Botswana, about seven hours away and oversees the chaplaincy program. Mary is a born-again believer and after receiving the NT began to witness to and teach the prison population using that one NT and a 15 lesson discipleship course that is written in the front of it. She now has over 200 prisoners attending weekly services and many prisoners have received Christ and are growing in the Lord **but** she has no one to help her and resources are non-existent. Add to that Gladys. Gladys came to Christ many years ago and for several years now has worked as a self-supporting missionary doing AWANA’S with children way up north, about 16 hours drive near the Namibian border, in a very remote village called Nxaunxau (pronounced - *Now now* with some really weird clicks). The people in Nxaunxau are the Barsawa tribe, also known as the last of the bushmen. They are hunter/gatherers and are among some of the most original Botswana alive and speak a language that is full of odd clicks of the tongue that this missionary can’t begin to emulate. Earlier this year Gladys was in the capitol on a weekend, found us online, and visited on a Sunday morning. Recently, she called sharing her concerns that there was a group of adult believers that had come to Christ along with the children she ministers to and she has no one to Pastor them and feels that they need to be able to identify with a home church. We are praying and planning for a ten to 12 day survey trip where we will drive to Ghanzi to meet Mary and minister in the prisons, then drive further north and meet up with Gladys to see the work there. Most of our travel will be in remote areas with no accommodations and we’ll have to live and work out of the truck, tent, and trailer (the infamous Word Wagon). These are opportunities to take the gospel to the “regions beyond” and to assist these ladies as much as possible and with the aim of sending them a man to serve as a Pastor and church planter. **Please pray much for this trip and these endeavors!**

AND NOW – THE BIG NEWS!! Remember that last year a Muslim owned printing company refused to print the Setswana New Testaments and that delay led us to Associated Printers with Joseph and Jikki Simon, an Indian family who own the largest printing company in Botswana. What began as a business relationship has become a treasured friendship with the Simon family who are all devout Catholics. Jikki recently began attending our services and was born again and we are making huge inroads towards reaching Mr. and Mrs. Simon. This week the Simons called me to a meeting and informed me that they were donating the use of a parcel of land (called a “plot” here) to us for use as a place to put the church. The land already has a small house, a security wall around it and has municipal water and electric hookups. It’s a beautiful and very spacious plot and is ideally situated in one of the most prominent and accessible places in the city. Best of all, our use of it is absolutely FREE! We’ll have some initial cost constructing a semi-temporary and reusable structure to facilitate our needs but once that is done we will save over \$1500 a month that we will not have to pay in rent that can be set back in the building fund as we look to building or buying a larger and more permanent facility in the future. I can’t tell you how ecstatic we are as this is yet another huge answer to prayer and the timing (beginning of the New Year) could not be more perfect. It will be good for the church and serve as a real test of their sincerity and resolve to give towards the temporary structure we’ll build and the furnishings that will be needed. Many of you have already given to our building fund and now we’ll be able to see some of those funds put into action. **Please PRAISE the Lord for this incredible provision and also pray that the Lord will give us wisdom and lead us plainly as we look at the different options for erecting a semi-temporary structure.**

Well, it’s 3:00 am and the first day of the year is well underway. I’m going to get a little sleep and in a few hours I am meeting Jikki and another Pastor friend to mountain bike 15 kilometers in the bush – my 2021 weight loss plan. We love you all and how could we ever express just how faithful God has been to us in this past year. He never fails to provide and never ceases to amaze us! I believe we are in the final stretch of the last days prior to the rapture of the church and that we’ll soon see Jesus face to face. Until then – we’re pressing on and looking up! Thank you for loving us and enabling us to serve as your missionary to Botswana!

Mike, Cindy, & Emily



Finally Here.... Sis Pamela joins the team!



Making new traditions- Christmas Eve with our neighbors and dear friends



Children's ministry in Nxaunxau 1060 km away to the Barsawa peoples, true bushmen! WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY BEFORE US!



NT Distribution Works! Sis. Mary from Ghanzi - 700 Km away Possible prison ministry opening

GREAT NEWS - DONATED PROPERTY FOR NEW CHURCH LOCATION.



**EASY TO GIVE DIRECTION TO / PUBLIC TRANSPORT CLOSE BY
NEXT TO THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT
NEW COMMUNITY TO REACH**