May 2025

Trying to determine what to put in our prayer letter nowadays is like trying to drink a can of sweetened condensed milk. Praise the LORD! It's all good but there's A LOT to share. I and Cindy, the ministry team and the church families here are all very thankful for your prayers and faithful support. Souls continue to be saved on a regular basis and Christians young and old are growing deeper and stronger in their walk with God. I wish each of you could see firsthand what the Lord is doing here in Botswana. It's difficult to summarize it in a prayer letter. And we have stalled a bit on the full length update video we're trying to produce but hopefully it will be done soon.

In our last letter we spoke of some physical and emotional challenges we had experienced. Your prayers and the many words of encouragement were well received! We took a two week respite from the work and the Lord definitely gave us some rest and needed perspective about balancing our responsibilities with proper rest and recreation when needed. Cindy and I are in our late 50's and while God has blessed us with good health and stamina we are having to accept that the 50's are not the 30's! Did I hear an amen?

Here are some highlights and a bit of what's been going on from the past two months.

- In March we held commencement ceremonies for four men who graduated the Faith Bible Institute. There are four new students for this coming term to join the six existing students.
- The week before Easter we travelled 9 hours to a village/town called *Rakops* with 8 young college guys from the church for a Bush Evangelism Tour. In two days over 1500 Setswana and English New Testaments were distributed door to door to about 75% of the village. So many amazing things happened on this trip, too many to tell here but God really blessed the outreach. And the comradery with the young men was priceless. Most of these guys started out as SS boys eight years ago when we started the church and to see their passion for the gospel and the maturity of their faith was very special. On the highway and with a heavily loaded trailer behind us we approached the village and hit a horse that ran wildly out of the bush and onto the road. By God's grace neither we, the vehicle or the animal was hurt.
- We had two ladies saved on Easter Sunday and today (May 4) three were baptized. God continues to bless Grace Baptist Church with a host of visitors each month and the church is steadily growing both numerically and spiritually. Our members are stepping up and serving in greater ways than ever before and it's so great to see them taking ownership in the various ministries of the church.
- The new church plant in *Ramotswa* led by Frank and Rosemary Mutape is off to a great start. The church meets in the assembly hall of a school for the deaf. The resident students (all deaf) are teenagers and all come to the services which gave us a "built in" deaf ministry from the very start. It has been REALLY SPECIAL to see how this ministry is unfolding. Of course we needed a deaf interpreter and God worked so that we met a lady to employ each Sunday. She is a lovely born again Christian and has a great heart for the deaf community. Please pray for souls to be saved and the church to be established in Ramotswa.
- We've been intensely `busy at the Grace Oasis College and Camp property. Youth camps, retreats, and other events are scheduled throughout the year. Next year we'll start conducting the Pastors training workshops bringing in "Pastors" from all over Botswana to teach them sound doctrine. Most will be very doctrinally ungrounded and some, possibly many, will actually be lost. Brother Chris Heyne has completed our main dormitory style cabin. We had 12 sets of 3 bunk bunk beds custom fabricated and just bought 50 mattresses with sheets, pillows, blankets, etc. We're also in the middle of an estimated \$35,000 rebuild of the shower and toilet facilities (called and ablution block here). Once done we'll have six toilet stalls and 10 showers in a really well thought out and durable brick and block building. We praise the Lord for these two critical additions to the property and some of you that are coming this year for mission trips will get to use them and see first hand what a blessing they are. Thus far we've been able to pay as we've built but our funds for construction projects are almost depleted. We're praying for \$15,000 for a much needed remodel and furnishing of the commercial kitchen and to purchase a few very needed appliances and additional stainless steel cups, plates, bowls, etc. for use during camps and retreats. Please pray with us and if you'd like to be a part of giving to fund that project contributions can be made to BIMI Account 805 and Designated Kitchen Project.
- Last week we hosted a group of Juniors and Seniors from the Grace Christian School in Plymouth Indiana. Pastor and Mrs. Elliot and their entire group of young people were such a blessing to us and we all had loads of fun. One morning we drove just under two hours to a village called *Moshupa* and distributed approx. 300 Setswana New Testaments house to house. Please pray for God to bless the seed that was sown and to also work in the hearts of the young people to surrender their lives wholly and completely to Christ.

Baptism Sunday May 4 2025











Grace Baptist Church - Ramotswa



Bush Evangelism Trip

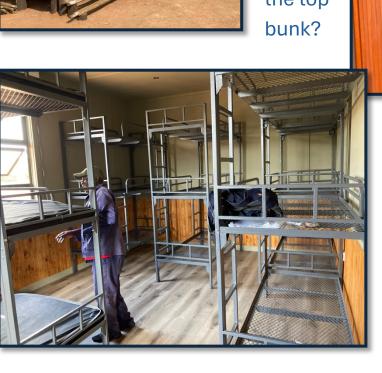


Grace Christian School – Plymouth Indiana



New Cabin

Who wants the top





Shower House Rebuild

