

Botswana Africa

Missionaries Mike & Cindy Haley



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April 8, 2026

But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. For he performeth the thing that is appointed for me: and many such things are with him. – Job 23: 10 & 14

Mom Cindy sings a song that states, “When you can’t see HIS hand, trust HIS heart.” For many years I have believed and preached that real faith, that which pleases God, is obedience to God’s Word and confidence in God’s nature regardless of circumstances or consequences. ***I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. – Psalm 34:1.***

A week before Christmas, we left for the States to see family and to preach some meetings and a missions conference in January. As the plane touched down in South Africa on January 20th tears welled in my eyes. Cindy asked what was wrong. I replied, “nothing wrong, it’s just good to be home. This is our place, we belong in Africa.” It’s strange what God does in a missionary’s heart. There are your roots, your family, where you’re from; and then there is where you belong, the people and the place that God makes “home” in your heart. And from the day we landed till now it has been non-stop, a season of immense blessing and progress coupled with an unexpected and life changing trial of our faith.

Since February:

- We introduced to the churches our theme for the year, “**Looking Beyond**” from 2 Corinthians 4: 17-18. Our key word is **Focus** - In 2026 we are focusing on: Our faith – Our following – Our families – Our finances – Our future.
- We met with our fellow missionaries and national leaders and set the course for the year ahead endeavoring to:
 - Go “next level” at Grace BC in Gaborone. This is the main church. We “split” the church last year and sent out a team of church planters and other members to start a new church in Ramotswa. The goal for this year is to strengthen the home church, rebuild the congregation and eventually “split” it again.
 - Launch a new ministry to evangelize on our college campuses and in Jr. and Sr. high schools
 - Intensive focus on the youth and young adults at GBC. Several of these are now engaging in the church planting and evangelism ministries of their own accord. God is raising up the next generation to be used by Him to reach Botswana with the gospel.
- We hosted two men from Peoples BC in North Carolina to oversee renovations to the mission house for the Hill family who will join us full-time in 2027. Next came an army of a group from Bible BC in Michigan and a lot of talent. They came to SERVE with a heart that can’t be put into words. Cabinets were built, painted, & installed, tile laid, siding installed, steps built, and all the exterior and interior finish work done on a staff cabin at the Grace Oasis and a host of small jobs and repairs. The encouragement this team brought was astounding. Next came Pastor Stalions from Indiana for several days for additional carpentry work and the preaching of some very timely messages. Our BIMI Africa field director, Bro. Eric Bohman was able to pop in for a few days of great fellowship. Then a few days later Dr. Brian Barber and Joe Hart from Indianapolis came to do a survey trip for a medical missions trip later this year.

On Tuesday March 31 we drove to South Africa for a 3 day R&R time with Shane and Emily whilst celebrating Mom Cindy’s birthday. We also needed to buy car parts & construction supplies and wanted to have Cindy looked at for a persistent cough that had continually worsened for 3 months. We were so excited as any trip out of Botswana and into the more modern parts of SA is always a welcome breath of fresh air to our soul. And we love the coffee you can get there.

On Wednesday April 1: Cindy and Emily were with the doctor getting Cindy “checked out” whilst Shane and I were running errands. I’ll never forget 3:30 pm when Emily called to say “Dad, come to the hospital now!” Standard tests throughout the day had led to **A CT scan revealing that Cindy had a large mass in her lung.** That started the longest week of our lives.

It’s now Wednesday April 8 – 10:20 am. In a few hours ICU will open for visiting hours and I’ll go see Cindy. We met the surgeon on Thursday April 2 to learn that in order to remove the mass Cindy would need a lung dissection. Easter in most of Africa is a Friday to Monday holiday so surgery was scheduled for Tuesday April 7. I (Mike) flew to Botswana Friday afternoon April 3rd for Easter Sunday and to prep for things at home. Cindy stayed with Emily in SA to rest up for the

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surgery. Easter services were different than before but still blessed! The new church plant in Ramotswa with Frank, Moses and their team had 31 people in attendance above and beyond themselves and those from the home church.

I flew back to South Africa on Monday evening. In all the back and forth the plane has become a quiet place, a precious prayer closet where the presence of the Lord and His calm assurances still the soul. Everything has happened so fast. Getting approvals from our health insurance company was an emotional nightmare. Shane and Emily are heroes beyond compare for what they did to get it all done. God's grace has been evident! The outpouring of love has been overwhelming, humbling. Thousands of messages with assurances of prayer have been received. God's people never suffer alone!

On Tuesday April 7 - Cindy had the surgery. They had to remove the middle and lower part of her right lung with the mass inside, and a lymph node. It is cancerous but the doctor felt confident that it is non-small cell cancer which is not as aggressive and responds well to treatment. We're waiting for biopsy results to see what comes next by way of chemo and/or radiation. A miracle took place during the surgery. The mass had grown into the sidewall of the pericardial sack which houses the heart. To remove it could have torn the sack and punctured the heart. But knowing it was her only chance for survival, he took a great risk and choose to persist where most would not have and when he went to remove the mass it came away cleanly and without harm. She is now in ICU for recovery and pain management and we hope to have answers from the biopsy by Friday. Please pray for healing and recovery, pain management, and the logistics of travel and lodging. Once she is released from the hospital it will still be sometime before she can travel back to Botswana and there will be a lot of back and forth for her post treatment. Your prayers are treasured. Once again we are going through the refiners fire. May God's purposes be known to us and God's glory be shown through us! That is our prayer!

To close this letter let me share with you some great praises!

- To date we have received three donations towards the \$110,000 needed to replace the roof on the main building at the Grace Oasis. One church gave \$25k – another church gave \$5k and a Christian businessman and his wife gave \$10k. God provided \$40,000 in one week! Once again – we stand amazed and very encouraged. Please pray for what will be needed to be provided as the Lord wills.
- When I left SA on Saturday they almost didn't let me board the plane as I only had one unstamped page left in my passport. Fortunately, because we are permanent residents in Botswana I was able to board but then advised that I might not get back into SA on the following Monday. I had renewed my passport weeks ago but had not found time to go and pick it up at the U.S. embassy in Botswana. Back in Botswana I called an emergency line and within two hours our **U.S. Ambassador** met me on the sidewalk outside of the embassy with my new passport in hand. Bear in mind that this was a Saturday on a holiday weekend. He was so glad to help. I had changed clothes to dress up for meeting our ambassador. He was "day off" dressed in shorts, a ball cap, and a Kentucky Wildcats t-shirt. What a laugh! We had some good jabs about Indiana winning the college football championship this year! It's so good to be from the good ole USA where people still know what it means to go the extra mile!

Your love and prayers are a priceless treasure to us. Our fondest love for you remains! Keep praying for Momma Cindy and we'll keep you updated. I'm sorry there are no pictures in this letter. We'll try to send out an "in between" letter or video soon so you can see the great work that's been done at the Grace Oasis.

Together in the harvest,
Mike & Cindy Haley
Botswana