



Botswana & Beyond

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JANUARY 2017 READY TO GO!

“The hand of providence (God) has been so conspicuous in all this, that he must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked, that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligations.” - George Washington

Recently, I read these words as our first President spoke of God’s provision for the birth of our nation and the obligations that lay upon us as a people so blessed. They well describe the “burden” of responsibility we feel as we leave for Botswana to begin our work there. We’re scheduled to fly out on Tuesday - January 17th at 5:30 p.m. and should arrive two days later. We’ve been incredibly blessed, our cup is full to overflowing, and we are ready to go! Leaving our family, friends, and familiarity behind is the hard part. We’ve done it before, but there’s still nothing easy about it. I think it’s harder when you’re older. But going with the overwhelming sense of God’s presence and the encouragement of your love, prayers, and support so wonderfully expressed adds that “something extra” that makes all the difference. We’re excited, eager to get settled and to begin engaging with the people God has called us to love. Many have asked about our flight path: Indianapolis to Chicago to London to Johannesburg, South Africa to Gabarone, Botswana. Travel time start to finish is right at 40 hours with no delays. **Please pray for the luggage to land with us!!**

Our Commissioning service took place on Sunday – New Year’s day. It was a very special day with family and friends and our church family could not have made it more memorable. Evangelist Roger Murphy, who taught me in Bible college and a life- long mentor, and Brother Eric Bohman, our Africa director from BIMl, and Cindy’s dad, Pastor Randy Parker all preached dynamic messages throughout the day that encouraged and challenged our hearts! Missions emphasis – what a way to start the New Year!

Many of you prayed with us for the sell of our truck and...it’s sold! We were thrilled to see it go to people who love the Lord. Thank you for praying! I’ll sure miss my ole Ford diesel!

We’ve been able to track our container on the internet and have watched it make its way from Indiana to port in Durban South Africa. As it’s unloaded, transported to Botswana and clears customs, the potential for difficulty and delay begins. **Please pray that the Lord will bless with a seamless delivery and perfect timing for the containers arrival.**

Please pray for our family during this time of transition – especially our kids. Brock is now 23 and Emily will soon be 21. They are awesome young adults and we’re proud of them. As they experience the transitions into young adulthood expose them to the temptations of the world and the snares of Satan. Our constant prayer is that they will walk close to the Lord, marry well, and desire to live a life fully surrendered to God’s will for their life.

In closing we want to say a heart-felt, “Thank You” to all of you for the wonderful Christmas offerings we received. Christmas is always special but this one was EXTRA special and very meaningful to us. We love you all and pray that you experience great grace, growth, and blessing in 2017. TOGETHER we are...Bound for Botswana!

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Acts 20:24



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