

In Botswana at last!

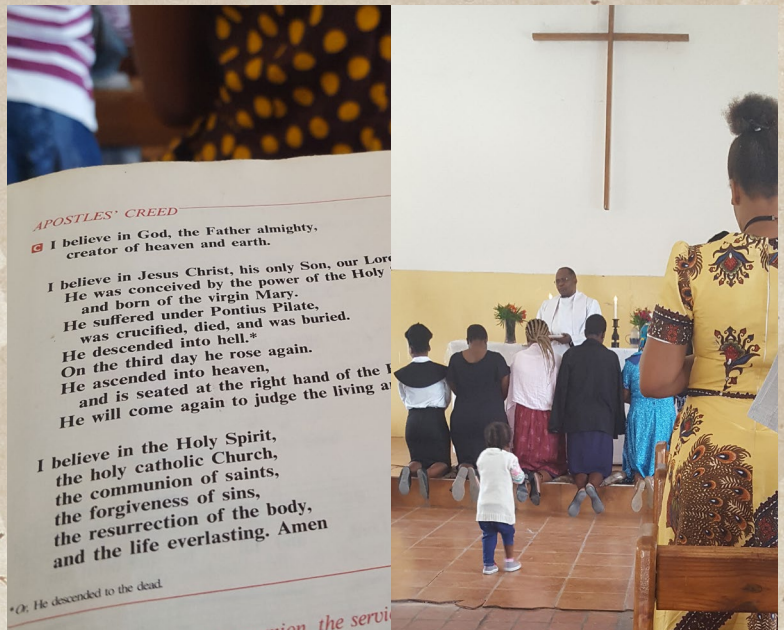
We all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done! -Acts 2:11



Our arrival at the airport in Maun. The kids did such a great job travelling!

As we were in church last Sunday saying the Apostles Creed, I (Carl) noticed that the Batswana people say the Creed differently than we do. They still say the same words (anyone recognize the hymnal we're using?), but they say them in a different cadence. They emphasize different words, stop in different places and the accents make it hard for my ears to recognize everything. It's not what I'm used to hearing.

But that doesn't make it bad. It's just different. These people are still Christians, still expressing their faith with the words that the people of God have used for hundreds of years to do just that. And we are thankful to have a place to worship, even if we aren't always sure what is happening. We know that we are among the people of God and that is enough for now. The rest will come in God's timing.



Language and culture learning

We are making lots of mistakes so far! Greetings are very important in Setswana culture and so most of our focus has been learning those so that we can be sure to be polite to the people that we meet every-day. Many Batswana are surprised when we greet them in Setswana; many of the tourists that come to

visit Maun don't usually bother learning any Setswana, so they usually start speaking much faster than we can comprehend after we greet them! It's been hard for our kids to handle meeting so many strangers, especially when they are expected to greet them as being a part of

polite. So we've been trying to ease them into that part of the culture and language.

We're searching for someone to help us in learning more Setswana, which we'll use daily and then to begin to learn Shekgalagari and Shiyeyi as well for our work in the translation projects.

What's coming next?

May 28 - June 1 - A consultant will be here from the United Bible Society to check the work done in both the Shekgalagari and Shiyeyi New Testaments. This is the big step before being able to move on publication for portions we have complete.

June 1 - Our hopeful date to turn in permit applications

June-July - Carl and Kelsey dive into language learning and orienting themselves in the projects
August 11 - Kids complete their term at school

August 25 - Dedication of the Kalanga Bible in Francistown, another LBT project being completed after many years. We will travel to join the celebration!



Thanks to your generous gifts, our vehicle is ordered and should be here next month. Thank you for your support in reaching this goal and blessing our ministry!

Victories and challenges so far

- Learning to drive on the other side of the road has been a big adjustment! Luckily, our kids have been wonderful back seat drivers.
- Finding and navigating grocery stores here and learning what we can cook. A good maxim to remember: if you see something you want, buy it now. It probably won't be there next time.
- The kids have loved playing outside so much after a cold spring in the U.S. There are several other children in our compound, so there are plenty of playmates close at hand.
- Our residency and work permits have been more difficult than we could have prepared for. The requirements changed between the time when we got a list of needed documents and our arrival, so we have been scrambling to get the things that we need. We made a trip to Gaborone, the capital, to visit the Embassy there to have documents certified. We are hoping to be able to turn everything in on June 1, so pray for us that day and as our application is processed. We really appreciate the helpfulness and assistance of our local partners and officials who are helping us through the process.
- We have been trying to plug into the different communities here in Maun. There are expatriates from around the globe, local Batswana from many different language groups and lots of tourists here for safari. Figuring each group out takes some work, but this is a big melting pot of culture in Botswana!
- We are trying to take things slow. It would be easy to jump right in and burn ourselves out quickly, but we want to make sure we take the time to lay a good foundation for our ministry here: learning culture and language, understanding the projects and their needs, as well as caring for our family.

Prayer requests for our family:

Pray for us as we go through the process of immigration. Satan is opposing us hard in this; we often feel discouraged! We need your prayers to be strong in faith and that God's power will be working in us and our situation. June 1 is the day we submit our applications. Thank you for standing with us!

Praise God for settling into the routine we are finding as a family!

Pray for the projects as we try to get acclimated to the way things work in Botswana

Pray that God would raise us local people to help us learn Setswana language and culture

Pray for our partners here in Botswana that our presence would be a source of encouragement

We still need your help to reach our funding goal! We are just **\$700/month** away from being fully funded. Will you consider an ongoing gift to support our work here in Botswana? Any amount makes a **difference** to our work!

MONTHLY SUPPORT GOAL							92%	100%
VEHICLE FUND	PRAISE GOD!	THANK YOU!	PRAISE GOD!	THANK YOU!	PRAISE GOD!	THANK YOU!	PRAISE GOD!	100%
HOUSEHOLD SETUP FUND		THANK YOU!	PRAISE GOD!	THANK YOU!	PRAISE GOD!	THANK YOU!		100%

Support our ministry!

Pray: We need people praying for us as we are in Botswana. Look above for specifics!

Give: We need the financial support of our partners to make our ministry in Botswana possible. Your financial gifts make it possible for us to budget and plan for our future in the field, especially the ongoing, regular gifts you generously give. You can give a tax-deductible gift online at **lbt.org** or mail checks with **Grulke Ministry** in the memo line to Lutheran Bible Translators, P.O. Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020

Advocate: We need people to support us in raising awareness for our ministry. You can share the mission of LBT with your church or friends and invite them to follow our journey too!

If you would prefer to NOT receive future emails or letters, or would like ADDITIONAL information on LBT and missionary support, please contact us to have your name removed from our list.

Follow our journey!

www.thegrulkes.org



The Grulkes' LBT Adventures

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