



# The Hills

Nathan, Akemi, Makoto & Megumi

## Missionaries to Botswana

May/June 2026

Hello faithful friends,

If I could describe the last two months in three words, they would be gracious, faithful, and humbling. “Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.” 1 Thessalonians 5:24 God has been so gracious and faithful to us, and it is truly humbling because we are so undeserving of his goodness in our lives.

At the beginning of May, we began our time in Canada. The people had a sweet spirit, and we left encouraged and blessed. We were able to share more of Botswana with everyone from the smallest child to the oldest adult. Everyone was eager and excited to hear about our ministry. I also greatly appreciated the privilege and opportunity to preach while in Canada. After we left Canada, we headed south again so Akemi could graduate from Bob Jones. 20 years later, she was able to walk across the stage and receive her bachelor’s degree.

The month of June brought many new adventures. We returned to BIMI for our second and final week of candidate school where we were able to reconnect with fellow missionary friends and receive additional training and preparation in our future transition to Botswana. We are thankful for the time and effort that BIMI invests in us. At this time, we were also able to visit several churches who encouraged us and were excited to learn about Botswana.

We experienced our first major obstacle in June. On our way to take Makoto to The Wilds, our transmission went out in the truck. We were 20 minutes from camp, stranded in the middle of the road on the side of a mountain. I often preach that God brings us to desert places to remind us of our total dependence on him, but I never imagined he would leave me stranded on the side of a mountain with a truck, camper, family, and two dogs! Praise the Lord that our brakes were still working! Some kind Samaritans drove by and offered to pull us to a safe spot on the side of the road. After they stopped, a church bus on their way to The Wilds offered to let Akemi and the kids ride with them the rest of the way so Makoto could check in and make it on time. Praise God for the kindness of strangers who are part of the family of God! I eventually found out that one of the young men who helped me pull the truck and camper had just recently surrendered to preach. What a blessing he was. Throughout this unexpected literal detour, I watched in amazement as God’s plan unfolded and our family was able to witness every need and request met and answered. We serve an awesome, faithful God, and we are humbled by his goodness in our lives. God used our time waiting for the transmission to get replaced as an opportunity for extra rest and reflection. The provision of the transmission was another answer to prayer and evidence of God’s omnipotence and omniscience. God was always right on time, and again, we were always amazed at how every detail worked out and every need was met. God’s “handfuls of purpose” were a steadfast reminder that God is faithful in all things, big and small. Although this last month has been full of unexpected experiences, it has been equally full of joyful opportunities to praise God and share his goodness and faithfulness with others.

Please continue to pray for us as we travel. As you read this, we are on our way to California, and we will be there for the month of July and August. Please pray that we can be an encouragement to others. We will remain out west for the summer; please pray for endurance. We have reached just over 52% of our raised support! We are thankful, and we praise God for each church and person who has partnered with us. We ask that you continue to pray for our remaining support. We covet your prayers for the Haleys and the ministry in Botswana. Please continue to fervently pray for healing, wisdom, strength, rest, and peace not only for Mike and Cindy and their family but for everyone they interact with from the medical staff to the people they meet while traveling back and forth to South Africa.

Thankful for you,

Nathan, Akemi, Makoto, and Megumi Hill

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**FROM THE HILLS TO THE BUSH**