



Carl and Kelsey GRULKE

MaryJane, Audrey, Judah, Gideon & Isaac

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



September 2026 Update

RE-SETTLING IN THE USA

GRULKE FAMILY

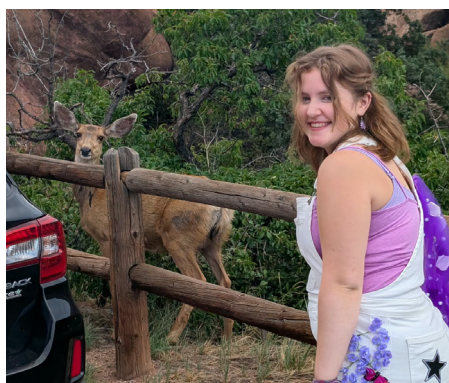
June marked the end of a significant chapter in our lives as we said goodbye to our home in Botswana after eight wonderful years. We are incredibly thankful for the time God allowed us to spend there and for the privilege of being part of the Bible translation work happening across the country. Looking back, we can clearly see God's faithfulness and provision in ways we never could have imagined when we first arrived. The friendships, ministry opportunities, and experiences we gained in Botswana will always hold a special place in our hearts.

As we closed that chapter, we began a new one in Urbandale, Iowa. While the transition has come with many adjustments, we are grateful that our work with Lutheran Bible Translators continues. Through modern technology, we are still actively involved in Bible translation efforts in Botswana, as well as supporting regional work throughout southern Africa and Ethiopia. We thank God for providing ways to stay connected and continue serving from across the world.

One of the biggest transitions for our family has been helping our children adjust to life in the United States. Last week, Audrey and the boys started school and the boys are attending an American school for the first time. Their first week has been filled with learning new schedules, understanding how things



Walking out to the plane as we leave Botswana, same flight as 8 years ago!



MaryJane started her senior year with a sunrise trip to Red Rocks with her classmates, a school tradition, and found a friend along the way!

operate in a different school system, and getting used to walking or biking to school each day. MaryJane will keep living in Denver with Kelsey's brother to finish up her high school time at the same school. We are sad to still be apart from her, but she is certainly a lot closer to us now!

As we continue adapting to life in Iowa, we remain deeply thankful for the years we spent in Botswana and excited to see how God will use this next season. Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and partnership as we continue serving in Bible translation and supporting the work God is doing in Botswana, southern Africa, and Ethiopia.



Gideon, Isaac, Audrey and Judah started on the same day. Three different schools in the same school district!

Pray that God will bless our family as we adjust to life on a new continent and a new phase of ministry.

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CONNECT:  The Grulkes' LBT Adventures
GIVING: <https://lbt.org/grulke>



SAYING GOODBYE IN STYLE

BOTSWANA

As a going away gift, our church in Botswana made us matching outfits! This was a wonderful way to remember our time in Botswana and we are so thankful for the wonderful faith community that we have been a part of over the years in Maun.

Pray for Christian communities, that God would use them to bless people all over the world.



KHWEDAM BIBLE DEDICATION

BOTSWANA

After nearly 20 years of work, the Khwedam Panoramic Bible was dedicated in Tobera, Botswana. The Khwe people now have key Bible stories in a format that reflects their strong storytelling tradition. The dedication celebrated the contributions of all who made the project possible. While this milestone is significant, the work continues through distribution and future translation efforts.

Please pray for the Khwe people and this ministry.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

REGARDING OUR MOVE TO THE US

Are you still working for Lutheran Bible Translators?

Yes! We are continuing to work for LBT, just in a different location. Thanks to technology and improvements in Botswana, Carl will be able to keep working with the translation teams there while he is in the US. And once things have settled down a bit at home, we will plan to travel to Botswana and Ethiopia to continue to connect with partners.

Do you still need financial support?

Yes! Our ministry will continue to need financial support from churches and individuals. Even though we no longer live in Botswana, we are continuing to work with projects and partners to make Bible translation happen. That work can't happen without your support. We are so thankful for those of you who have supported us over the years.

Will you come speak at our church?

Yes! We would love to talk to you about coming to speak about our ministry at your church, Bible study or any group you'd like. Just send us an email at carl-kelsey.grulke@lbt.org and we can try to get you on the schedule.

Let us know if you have any other questions or want to know more about this new phase of ministry for our family.

WHAT'S COMING NEXT?

Sep 4 - Happy birthday Kelsey!

Sep 15 - Grant applications due for partners

Sep 28-Oct 11 - Pontsho in South Africa for Hebrew

Sep 29 - Happy birthday Gideon and Isaac!

Sep 30 - Botswana's 60th Independence Day!

Sep 30 - Back to the Bible Summit

Oct - Online team checking with Shekgalagari team



An online event hosted by LBT to talk about the Scripture engagement needs of the American church. Find out more and register at lbt.org/summit

PRAY

We need your prayers for our family, programs, projects, the translators and more.

GIVE

We need your financial support for this ministry. Give online at lbt.org/grulke or mail a check to LBT. Regular gifts make a big difference!

TELL

We need people to raise awareness for our ministry. Share the mission of Bible translation with your church or friends!

PLEDGED MONTHLY SUPPORT

65%

This tracker shows the amount that is pledged to our ministry on a monthly basis. It doesn't show every gift, but it helps us plan for the future.