

Mashiah Foundation News

Mary Beth & Bayo Oyebade—Missionaries in Jos, Nigeria

As a side note, we are planning for our Women of Hope sewing program to start sewing the Days for Girls packs. There are just a few of the needed items that are not available in Nigeria, but we are trying our best to replicate the packs here so this unique item can be made available to many more girls and women.

Shipping Container

We received a container full of many wonderful items for the school (books, musical instruments, teaching resources) and the hospital last December. We are so grateful for those who collected items, packed loads, and got things to Minnesota, and for those who donated to get the container shipped to Nigeria. It has been such a blessing. In the future, we hope to ship another container primarily filled with medical equipment.

Robberies

We had a tough summer as two of our ministry sites were robbed—one in July and another in August! Thankfully no one was injured in the process. We lost 11 desktop computers, a 10,000-watt inverter (which came on the container), and large truck batteries for solar power, as well as other smaller things. We have day and night security guards at both locations as well as iron bars on the windows, etc. These were obviously inside jobs in the middle of the night. This was a setback for us, but we just had to go on. Our case is still being handled by the police.

Violence in Nigeria

There have been uncountable, horrific attacks on villages throughout Nigeria by armed herdsmen. This has been unrelenting for the past 3-4 years. During 2018, a number of these attacks happened right on the outskirts of our city of Jos. In September one of our staff lost 9 members of her extended family one night about 8 p.m. while they were in their own compound, minding their own business. The attack was completely unprovoked. I encourage you to read about the Nigerian situation by googling it. Presidential elections are coming up in February 2019. Unfortunately, we expect more violence during that time.

This senseless violence has caused even more people in Nigeria to be in need. At Mashiah Foundation Bayo is continually meeting people who have great needs because of how they have been affected by this violence.

You may be wondering how we cope with this violence. We're a pretty cautious family. We just go to our various ministry sites and make sure we're home by dark (6:30).

We don't even travel within Nigeria. We have not felt a personal threat, but we do ask that you would pray for protection for us. We still feel very called to life and ministry in Nigeria.

Our Family

Our son Tobi is currently a senior at Hillcrest School (an international school in Jos). He just finished a flurry of college applications to schools all across the U.S. We also submitted our FAFSA form for federal financial aid. While Tobi is undecided about what he will study, he is leaning towards whichever school will give us the best deal!

David is a 9th grader and currently has his mom for his English teacher. I think he would tell you that it's not as bad as he imagined it would be. Lily is an artistic 7th grader; I love seeing how she looks at life. I teach two sections of 9th grade English every morning at Hillcrest before I go to Foundations Academy to take care of my duties there. Working at Hillcrest helps to defray the school fees we pay for our three kids. Bayo keeps busy running all of the different facets of Mashiah Foundation.

We all plan to be in the U.S. in the summer of 2019. Please let us know if you would like us to visit you or your church. We'd be happy to see you.

I'm still working on getting our online newsletters set up with Mail Chimp. Please send me your email address if you'd like to receive newsletters in this way.

Thank you so much for your support and encouragement over the years. We couldn't do this work without you.

With love,
Bayo, Mary Beth, Tobi, David and Lily

Contact and contribution information:
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Make checks payable to Mashiah Foundation. If you need a receipt for tax purposes, make check payable to First Baptist Church, Cook; mail either gift directly to Rick & Sandi Wallestad at the above address.

**Please note our permanent change of
U.S. address in the box above.**