

# the *Coles*

Mike, Anna, Benaiah & Judah

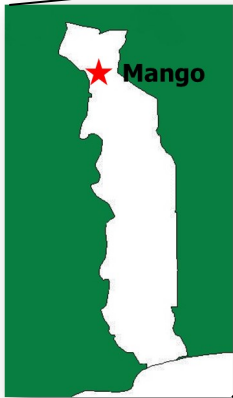
medical ministries

church planting



Reaching the lost through medical  
and church planting ministries in

mango,  
togo  
west africa



sent by:

Highland Hills Baptist Church  
Grand Rapids, MI  
[www.hhills.org](http://www.hhills.org)

Point Church  
Pensacola, FL  
<https://tothepoint.church>

serving with:

**abwe**  
INTERNATIONAL



“ But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.

Acts 20:24 ”

# { the Coles }

Mike, Anna, Benaiah and Judah

sent to serve in  
**mango, togo**



medical ministries • church planting

Greetings,

Grace and peace to you from fellow laborers in Christ. Thank you for taking the time to read through this packet. Our intention in putting this together is to introduce ourselves to you and share the passion God has placed in our hearts for the people of Togo, West Africa. God faithfully equipped us, in big and small ways, for full-time ministry in missions throughout our lives.

**Anna:** Raised in a Christian home, I grew up hearing about the truths of the Gospel and accepted Jesus as my personal Savior at the age of four. While attending summer camp as a 13 year old, I, devoted my life to serving God—no matter where that took me and however He chose to use me. Opportunities to go on short term missions trips to Salt Lake City, Mexico, France, and South Africa over the years grew in me a heart for missions, specifically in Africa. After receiving my Bachelor of Science in Bible and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degrees, I pursued medical missions opportunities, which ultimately led me to ABWE where I was appointed as a career missionary to serve in Togo, West Africa. I served there from 2014-2016 and it was during this time that I met another missionary nurse, Mike Cole.

**Mike:** I was born and raised in the Philippines as the son of ABWE missionaries, so my love of culture and desire to see the nations come to know the Lord has grown in me from a very young age. I, too, came to know the Lord as my personal Savior at the age of four and grew in my faith and love of God over the years. After attending Cedarville University, where I received my BSN, I joined the U.S. Navy, serving with them for nearly a decade. During my time in the Navy I was able to travel the world while also serving others through my nursing skills. But my desire to serve through medical missions never left me so, after getting out of the Navy in 2014, I contacted ABWE. They led me to the Hospital of Hope in Mango, Togo where I served short-term from 2014-2016. During that time, the Lord made it clear to me that He was calling me to return as a career missionary to Mango and I was appointed by ABWE in 2016.

We married in early 2017, completed prefield ministry requirements and support raising and left for the field in August 2017. After spending about a year in language school, we arrived in Mango once again, this time as a husband and wife team. During our first term on the field, our family grew with the addition of two sons! Benaiah was born in 2018 and Judah followed in 2020. Due to these two blessed additions, as well as supporter changes over the last four years, we are currently under-supported and seeking those eager to partner with us in this exciting ministry in northern Togo!

While in Togo we have fallen in love with the Togolese people: their generosity, kindness, hospitality, positivity despite incredible poverty, and also see firsthand their great physical and spiritual needs. Standing on the hospital property and feeling the dirt between our toes, we have been able to witness lives changed for eternity on this plot of land. We are excited to one day introduce you to the many Togolese in Heaven who surrendered to Christ through the ministry of the Hospital of Hope! We are both humbled and excited that God has called us to be a part of what He is accomplishing here. He is working mighty wonders and we feel blessed to have a front row seat to the display of His life-transforming power in Mango, Togo!

Highland Hills Baptist Church's and Point Church's faithful investment in our lives have helped shape us into who we are today. As a result, we are excited to be one of the instruments God uses to extend their ministries beyond their doors and around the globe! Now we are looking for others who will join our team. Would you be willing to be a part of what God is going to accomplish in Togo for His glory? We would love to have an opportunity to share more information with you, your church, or a group of your family and friends! Please contact us if we can provide further information or if there is any way that we can serve you and your church family.

For HIS Glory,  
Mike and Anna Cole  
Acts 20:24

# Anna's journey to Togo

born June 25, 1985



baptized at Highland Hills Baptist Church

1994

1989 received Christ as my Savior

my first missions trip in Salt Lake City, Utah

2000

1998 dedicated my life to God to be used for His purposes at Lake Ann Camp; began thinking about missions



2001-03 attended other short-term mission trips around the US and Mexico

2005 five-week missions trip in France

four-month missions trip in South Africa

2007

2007 graduated from Baptist Bible College with B.S. in Bible and Counseling



appointed by ABWE as career missionary to Mango, Togo

2011

2012 graduated from nursing school and received my nursing license from Grand Valley State University



survey trip to Togo gave confirmation of God's call

2012

left for language school

2013

met an ABWE short-term missionary nurse named Mike Cole in Togo, started dating

2015

2014 arrived on the field in Togo



married Mike Cole on January 7th and officially joined as partners in ministry for Mango, Togo

2017

2016 Mike appointed as ABWE career missionary to Togo

Togo  
West Africa

# Mike's journey to Togo

born May 14, 1981  
in Leyte, Philippines

baptized at Heritage Baptist Church,  
Quezon City, Philippines

1989

1985 received Christ as my Savior

1998 youth group mission trips to  
Shepherd's Home and Arizona while  
on furlough

graduated from Faith Academy

2000

2004 graduated from Cedarville  
University (BSN with Bible and  
cross-cultural nursing minors) and  
received my nursing license



medical missions trip to Philippines

2003

joined the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps

2004

medical missions trip to Thailand

2007

2013 felt God's calling to overseas  
medical ministry; appointed as an  
ABWE short-term missionary to  
Mango, Togo

left the U.S. Navy after gaining  
valuable nursing and leadership  
skills; affirmed my desire to use  
my nursing skills to serve others

2014

2014 arrived on the field in Togo



met an ABWE career missionary  
nurse named Anna Doenier in Togo,

2015

2016 appointed as ABWE career  
missionary to Togo



married Anna Doenier on January 7th  
and officially joined as partners in  
ministry for Mango, Togo

2017

2017 the Coles left for language  
school in France

arrived once again in Mango to serve  
the Lord at the Hospital of Hope

2018

2021 Received my MSN (nurse  
education focus) from  
Cedarville University

Togo  
West Africa

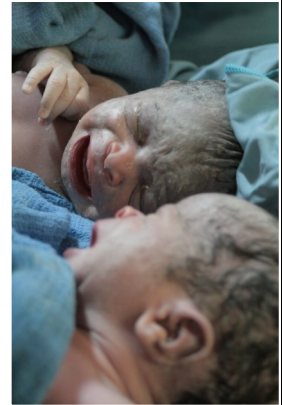




# { an unprecedented opportunity }

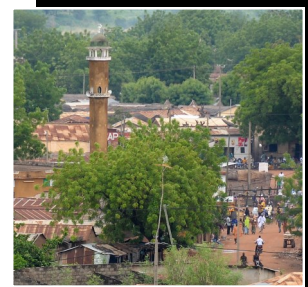
the need is *great*

- ↳ nearly half of the population of Togo is **under 15** years of age
- ↳ every year millions of Africans die needlessly from **preventable and treatable** diseases
- ↳ the doctor-to-patient ratio in the United States is 256 for every 100,000 people while in Togo it is a staggering **5 for every 100,000**
- ↳ only **one in 20** women has access to a C-section when necessary



the opportunity is *unprecedented*

- ↳ the **predominantly Muslim** community in northern Togo approached ABWE about building a hospital in their area as a result of the reputation of ABWE's Hôpital Baptiste Biblique in Tsiko, Togo
- ↳ the **Hospital of Hope** in Mango, Togo is the response to that need and invitation
- ↳ **God has opened a door** into an unreached and closed area of the 10/40 Window through medical missions
- ↳ due to our close proximity to the surrounding African nations, we have the opportunity to **reach beyond borders** without leaving Togo, serving patients from Ghana, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, and even as far as Guinea



“ Quality healthcare is greatly lacking in so many African nations. In my experience, compassionate, Christ-centered medical missions is one of the most effective evangelistic tools God is using to reach Africans.

”

Ron Washer, ABWE Executive Director for Africa

# { facts about Togo }

**Area:** 21,925 sq mi (56,785 sq km); about the size of the western half of the lower peninsula of MI

**Population:** 8.2 million people (2020 est.); made up of 37 tribes—largest and most important are Ewe, Mina, and Kabré

**Capital:** Lomé

**Geography:** located in West Africa; bordered by Burkina Faso to the north, Benin to the east, Ghana to the west, and the Atlantic Ocean to the south; gently rolling savanna in the north, central hills, southern plateau, low coastal plain

**Climate:** tropical; hot, humid in south; semiarid in north (Mango sees temperatures as high as 145° during the hot season); two rainy seasons in the south (Sep-Nov and Apr-Jun) and one in the north (Jun-Sept)

**Language:** French (official); Ewe and Mina (two major African languages in the south), Kabiyé and Dagomba (two major African languages in the north); Anufo (most significant African language spoken in and around Mango)

**Religion:** Indigenous beliefs 51% (including animism, fetishism, and voodoo), Christian (including Roman Catholic and Protestant) 29% (primarily in southern Togo), Muslim 20%; in the north where Mango is located, Islam is the predominant religion and Christianity is nearly non-existent

**Economics:** Togo depends heavily on agriculture, which provides livelihood for over 65% of the population. Cocoa, coffee, and cotton are the most significant cash crops exported. Togo is also one of the world's largest producers of phosphate.

## Health Concerns:

- infant mortality rate: 7.9% of live births
- maternal mortality rate: 570 deaths/100,000 live births
- life expectancy at birth: 58 years
- physicians: 5 per 100,000 people
- hospital beds: 85 beds/ 100,000 people
- malnourished children (under 5 years): 21%

## Major Infectious Diseases:

- hepatitis A, B, & C
- typhoid fever
- malaria
- yellow fever
- meningococcal meningitis
- rabies
- HIV/AIDS
- amoeba
- Lassa fever

“

## Harmattan

a season when dust from the Sahara Desert is blown southward. The hot, dry Harmattan wind can reduce visibility during

”



{ here am i... }  
*send me* }

sent to serve in  
**mango, togo**



medical ministries • church planting

As you perused the statistics on the previous page we hope you were struck by the overwhelming medical needs in Togo. As nurses at the Hospital of Hope (HoH) we have been able to help meet these needs through compassionate and quality health care. As we live within this culture we are bombarded daily, not only with the immense medical needs in the region, but also with the people's profound needs. Reminders of their enslavement to Islam are seen in the burqas and hijabs worn by the women, by the kufis and robes worn by the men, by the call to prayer rung from the minarets five times a day, by those often seen kneeling on prayer mats facing toward Mecca, by their greetings and their drive to do good works to earn the favor of Allah.

We were privileged to be the Hospital of Hope when it opened in 2015. We can tell you countless stories of lives ravaged by sickness, disease, and poverty. They have contracted terminal diseases and are dying. In the state of poverty in which they live, there is little hope that their life will extend beyond a few months to a few years. Looking into their eyes as they sit before us, the science of medicine is put in its proper place. While we may be able to give pills and care to extend life for a while, the ultimate question remains...what then? *When this life has gone, as it inevitably will, where will they spend their eternity?* We see medical work through a different lens now. To some extent we can treat disease, patch up wounds, extend a person's life by months, years, or even decades. But the driving force for us has become, "**What then?!**" Whether young or old, sick or well, rich or poor, from Asia, Africa, Europe, or North America, the same question remains. Where will these beautiful people spend their eternity? Have they heard the saving truths of God's Word? Most here in northern Togo have never heard that a Savior died to so that they could be freed from the bondage of sin. This is why we go.

## — Monthly Support Requirements —

Salary and Housing	\$3,839
Ministry and Administration	\$ 3,455
Total	<u>\$ 7,294</u>

## — Current Monthly Support —

Total Monthly Support Need	\$7,294
Current Monthly Support	<u>\$ 6,103</u>
Total Monthly Support Deficit	\$ 1,191/month



# Togo *north* team

## Hospital of Hope

*This vital component of the ministry in northern Togo is helping to meet the physical needs of many Togolese and providing many opportunities to share how Christ is the only cure for their spiritual need. Our vision is that every patient who comes through our doors not only sees Christ's love displayed, but also hears of His Truth and saving grace.*

## Hope Radio

*This facet of the team broadcasts a Christian radio station, the only of its kind in northern Togo, spreading the truth of the gospel to many in and around Mango. Many are hearing God's truths for the first time through this effective ministry tool.*

## church planting

## Community Health Evangelism

*As an extension of the hospital ministry we are currently beginning to get up and going a ministry that takes health education along with evangelism into the villages around Mango to broaden our opportunities to share about the hope found in Christ alone*

## Christian Education

*This ministry is two-fold: a nursing school and a Christian primary school. Our team has trained all of our Togolese nurses internally through our own on-site nursing program. While learning nursing concepts and practices, they are also taught the Word of God and disciplined by our missionary staff. ABWE has also partnered with a local church to open the first Christian school in our area! The second school year has just begun.*

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## ABWE Togo North Team

Amanda Bressler

John & Susie Briggs

Stephen & Bethany Chmil

Mike & Anna Cole

Timothée & Myriam Deglon

Jennifer DeKryger

Adam & Faith Drake

Evan & Joy Drake

James & Melissa Fife

Melissa Friesen

Garon & Susan Harris

Tara Henderson

Andy & Amanda Justison

Caroline Klingbeil

Megan MacKenzie

Ethan & Melissa Molsee

Bryce & Natasha Nattier

Alain & Katherine Niles

Josh & Beth Paulick

Sharon Rahilly

Ben Randel

Stephen & Lisa Wreesman



# personal ministry focus

sent to serve in  
mango, togo



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## Ministry Roles

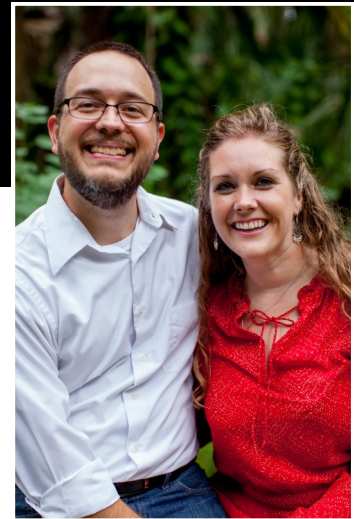
- { Mike serves not only as a **nurse in the inpatient wards** at the Hospital of Hope, but also fulfills the role of **nursing supervisor**, along with a Togolese counterpart
- { Mike recently completed his **Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN)** with a focus on Nurse Education through Cedarville University. Next term he will be transitioning into a **training role** in our on-site nursing school in addition to his role as a bedside nurse.
- { we are involved in **leading a weekly Bible study** in a neighboring village
- { on top of her primary ministry of raising our children, Anna leads the team's **Member Care Committee** that seeks to maintain the emotional, spiritual, physical, and mental health of our team members in order to increase longevity in ministry service
- { we are also involved in getting a new ministry, **Community Health Evangelism (CHE)** off the ground in the hopes that this will reach into the lives of those in neighboring villages through evangelism as well as basic health education to improve health outcomes; the goal is to use health education and healthcare to open doors for the Gospel in the surrounding areas and ultimately plant new churches
- { we are also involved in **hospitality ministries** and seek to use our home to encourage others and build meaningful relationships with those around us





here am i...

send me



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serving with:

The Association of Baptists  
for World Evangelism  
P.O. Box 8585  
Harrisburg, PA 17105  
717.774.7000  
www.abwe.org

### Thank you for prayerfully considering partnering with us!

Throughout our ministry career God has shown us how He has faithfully equipped us, in big and small ways, to do His work here in Mango, Togo. We are humbled and excited to be His instrument to bring both physical and spiritual hope to a people dying in darkness! We are very grateful for the prayers, financial support, and encouragement of people like you. All three aspects are vital to our effectiveness in ministry to Mango, Togo. May God be praised in and through our lives!





mango,  
togo  
west africa

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