



**Lutheran Bible
Translators**

Jo Ann and Michael Megahan, Adjunct Missionaries with Lutheran Bible Translators



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Our Mission: Putting God's Word
of Life into every language.
Please join us in this ministry with
prayer and financial support.



MOVING FORWARD: THE KHWE IN BOTSWANA

COVID restrictions have, until now, prevented Michael from in-person consulting with the Khwe program for almost 2 years. We have been doing some work through online methods but have only been able to "inch forward" for the past few months. However, Botswana has reopened their borders, and Michael is planning to travel there in February or March. This is a very important trip. Our prayer is that it will bring the program to the final stage of typesetting and publishing.

TANZANIA: THE KEREWÉ PROGRAM

The Kerewe team has been working very hard. They have finished translating the books of Jonah, Luke, and Acts and are finalizing preparations for typesetting, publishing, and distributing them. Additionally, they have moved forward with the translations of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and John.

Michael is planning a trip to visit the Kerewe team in March. The goal of the trip will be to move the team forward so that they can finish the translation of all the Gospels by June. After that, the team will start translating the Pentateuch (the 1st five books of the Old Testament).



ISLAND TRANSPORTATION

On Thanksgiving 2021, Michael took the ferry from Ukerewe Island to Ukara Island, Lake Victoria. We used the larger car ferry because the smaller passenger one no longer runs. (see story next page)

UKARA ISLAND

Many Christians on Ukara Island (Lake Victoria, Tanzania) have asked for the Bible to be translated into their language. They do not have any scripture in their language, and many of the people do not read Swahili, the national language. We estimate that less than 50% of the Kara people have accepted Christ. A translation of the Bible will provide a tool for spreading the Gospel to those who have not yet heard it and will strengthen the spiritual growth and discipleship of those who have already been baptized.

Prior to doing the translation, it is necessary to do a sociolinguistic survey to determine the actual need for a Bible translation. We also do language development and community motivation, so that the program is owned by the whole community. Michael spent a day on the island gathering information and talking with community leaders about the process of starting a program.



LUNCH ON UKARA ISLAND

When we visited Ukara Island, we were served a delicious fish dinner. As pictured, we were able to “take home” food for the next day.

Pictured is Evangelist Seba Alloys. Seba runs the Audio-Visual evangelism program for the East of Lake Victoria Diocese where the Ukara and Ukerewe islands are located. He also assists Michael with driving and other tasks when Michael is visiting Tanzania. We are thankful for our Tanzanian colleagues who participate in the ministry and for the East of Lake Victoria Diocese for its commitment to Bible translation.

Prayers

1. Passport renewal: Michael has sent in his passport for renewal. He understands that there is a backlog and many delays in the process. Please keep the passport need in prayer, with an early return date of the passport, so that Michael can continue work as scheduled in February and March.
2. Thanks to all who continue financial support for this ministry with LBT. COVID has made travel not only more stressful but also more expensive. Please keep the financial needs for our ministry in prayer.
3. Keep Dr. Beckendorf (exegete/project advisor for the Khwe (Botswana) in prayer along with the translation team. After almost 17 years of dedicated work, they are reaching the end. Pray for Michael's trip to be with them in February/March so that the typesetting and publishing of this very first panoramic Bible in the Khwe language can be finalized.
4. Pray for LBT strategy planning for reaching new groups like the Kara, Sumbwa, and Taturu in Tanzania.
5. Keep in prayer the ongoing work of the translation of the Gospels for the Kerewe (Tanzania).