



Rev. Nathan and Sarah Esala served the Likɔɔnl (or Komba) Bible project in Ghana, West Africa, beginning in 2003. Nathan's role as a translation advisor presented new experiences such as: developing partnerships with the Komba church and community leader, analyzing/documenting the linguistics of the language, checking translated drafts for quality, and assisting in final New Testament revisions for publication.

Currently, Nathan is serving as the translation coordinator for LBT. He desires to discover and facilitate excellent practices in Bible translation and missiology for Lutheran Bible Translators in partnership with African colleagues. To help accomplish that goal, Nathan is enrolled as a Ph.D. student at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa.

He has an incredible wife, Sarah, and five fabulous children: Karissa, Annaka, Aili, Isaac, and Eliot.

December Birthdays

- Isaac Esala
- Larry Johnson
- Paul Federwitz
- Joan Weber
- Josh Wagner
- Mical Hilbert

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lutheran bible translators
GOD'S WORD
 for every language



In November, Jim Laesch met with the Themne Bible revision team in Sierra Leone. They are reworking some sections of the translation before final checking and publication.

december 2015
PRAYER
CALENDAR

1. Give thanks to God for the well-attended events at the dedication of the international offices of LBT on Reformation Sunday.

2. Please pray that our international partners in Botswana, Moses and Splash, will practice a dedication to the work of translation.

3. Pray for Rev. Linus Otronyi and others participating in a Scripture Engagement/Media workshop at the Nigeria Bible Translation Trust from December 3–12.

4. Pray for spiritual and emotional strength and wisdom as Rev. Michael Megahan and LBT's international partners enter the last phase of the Kalanga Bible Translation Project.

5. Pray that Isaac Esala will continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus, having a deep sense of peace from his head to his toes.

6. Give thanks for successful checking sessions with the Tarok team in Nigeria and pray for progress in other language projects, including audio recording the Yala New Testament.

7. Pray that Liberia and Sierra Leone will remain Ebola free, and that Guinea will soon achieve that freedom. Pray for Ebola survivors who battle stigma and chronic symptoms.

8. Pray for Rev. Rich Rudowske as he travels back to the United States from Ethiopia.

9. Praise God for Larry Johnson as he continues to serve as a translation consultant for language projects in Botswana.

10. Pray for wisdom and guidance for students as the semester comes to a close.

11. Pray that the staff, missionaries, and international partners of LBT would apply God's Word to their lives, decisions, communication and relationships.

12. Pray the Themne Bible Translation team in Sierra Leone will find a new workspace as they go through Old Testament books to make them more consistent in style and giving attention to local expressions.

13. Pray that God will move and equip village pastors and preachers to use local language Scriptures more and more, especially during the Christmas season when special services are held.

14. Praise God for Paul Federwitz and his service in Ghana as an IT consultant. Continue to keep Paul and his family in your prayers as they settle in Accra.

15. Pray that God would guide the sale of the Aurora office building and condo so LBT may practice good stewardship.

16. Pray that LBT would continue to strive for excellence and rigorous approaches in all aspects of ministry for the glory of God.

17. Pray that the lives of people around the world will be transformed as they read and use God's Word in their heart language.

18. Pray for blessings upon Martin and Joan Weber as they continue to faithfully serve in Cameroon with several language projects.

19. Give thanks to God for all who showed their support by attending LBT events in 2015.

20. Pray for safety and good fellowship with friends and family for those who are traveling during the Christmas season.

21. Pray that LBT will practice innovation and creativity in the office and on the field.

22. Praise God for all of the assistance volunteers have given to LBT this year.

23. Pray for LBT missionaries and staff as plans are made for 2016.

24. Praise God for Josh Wagner and the blessing he is to his family and the work in Sierra Leone as Scripture Engagement Advisor.

25. Praise God for His gift of salvation found in Christ alone.

26. Pray for LBT missionary candidates as the board considers them for service overseas.

27. Pray for the Wagner family as they welcome their third son.

28. Pray for wisdom and discernment for LBT's board members as they evaluate the nominees for the upcoming board elections in 2016.

29. Pray for future recruitment events that God will lead people to serve with LBT.

30. Pray for Janet Borchard as she prepares to go to Papua New Guinea in February for a six month stay.

31. Pray for wisdom and peace as Mical and Rob Hilbert prepare to relocate to Botswana next month.