

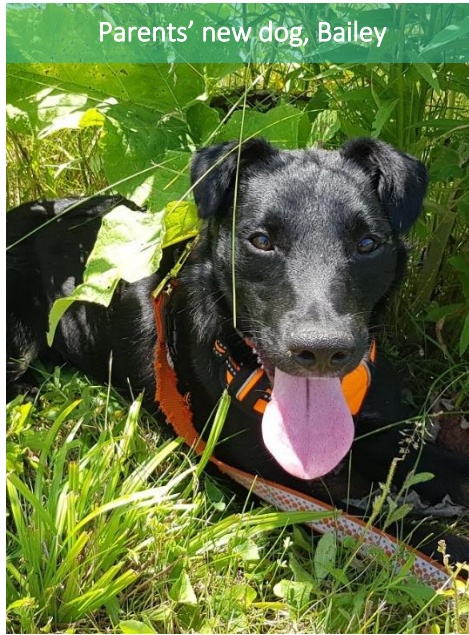


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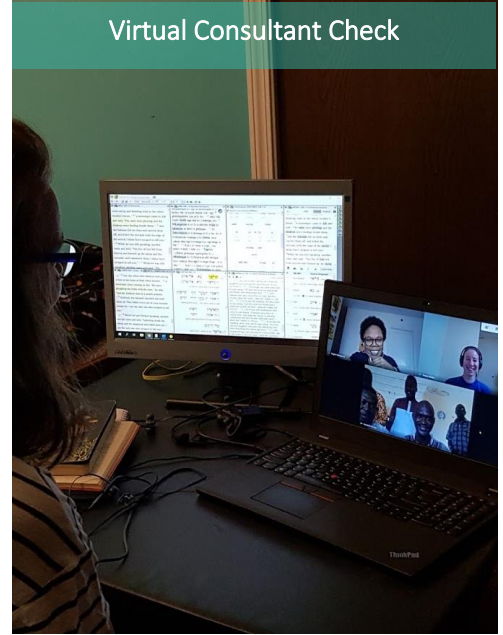
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Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ~ Col 3:15 (NIV)

Parents' new dog, Bailey



Virtual Consultant Check



Working from Home

Like many of you, I have been learning to work from home and all the benefits and challenges that go along with it. A huge shout out to my parents for letting me stay with them again; letting me commandeer their card table to make a desk that can hold a second screen, a planner and books; and letting me borrow their vehicles. Life would look a lot different without support from family and a consistent place to call home while in the U.S.

Over the last few months, I have been working with the Mende translation, finding articles and books written about Mende language and culture (there are more than I originally thought!), and catching up on other work. Originally the translators would team check in Bo, and I would proofread in Little Chute (WI) separately, since the internet was not working so well anymore in Sierra Leone. Then in June, the head office of the Bible Society of Sierra Leone provided each of the translation projects with a new WIFI modem, since they would all be working with the translation consultant who would be video calling from Kenya. This allowed the team to share their screen. We could be all literally on the same page in Sierra Leone, Kenya, and the U.S. I am so grateful for the opportunity for us all to work together for that week, so that more books could be consultant checked (completed Nehemiah, checked all of Esther, and started on Job chapters 1-2). Praise God for this progress and a chance to work together even when apart.

Because of the better internet availability in Bo, starting in July, the team and I began meeting virtually on a regular basis to team check together. We are currently working through Isaiah. It can be a challenging book with a lot of references to locations, specific animals and plants that don't live or grow in Sierra Leone, as well as deep historical and cultural background information that we can miss in English. We are also continuously working to use consistent spelling and accurate word choices. Please pray for us to have wisdom, perseverance, and patience as we work towards an accurate, clear, and natural translation for the book of Isaiah.

In the second week of August, the reviewers met for the second time this year to read through and make comments on the Mende translation. This time they read through various smaller books throughout a whole week. Thanks be to God for the ten people who travelled to Bo to review the books and give their input. Pray for their health and protection.

As I mentioned earlier, I have been looking at Mende resources available from various sources. I have found resources (not all necessarily readily available, but at least I know they exist) about Mende grammar as a whole or specific aspects, ranging from the early to late 1900s. Mende is one of two large language groups in Sierra Leone, and many linguists and missionaries have analyzed and documented this language. I am grateful to be able to read their research and analyses and focus more time on translation work, rather than discover so much on my own, like so many Bible translation workers must do.

Mende Minute

Fale Ndemoi ta vulii mia a bi goo a tomaseli. Kpee le,
Therefore the Lord himself it is you know with a sign Look

foninge nyahei lo koi hu tawao i ndoi lema tawao ta ngi loli lo a Imanuel.
young woman pregnant and she child give birth and him call Immanuel

Free Translation: Therefore it is the Lord himself who will make you know a sign. Look, the young woman will be pregnant and she will give birth to a child and call him Immanuel.

~ Isaiah 7:14



Financial Support:

Send checks designated for 'Amy Formella' to:
Lutheran Bible Translators
PO Box 789

Concordia MO 64020

Or you can go online at:

<http://lbt.org/project/amy-formella>

Thank you for your continued support! I couldn't work with the Mende without your partnership!

Staying in touch:

Email address: amy.formella@lbt.org

Facebook Group: Formella 411

Website:

<http://amyformella.wixsite.com/amyonthefield>

I look forward to hearing from you!