



During a visit to Botswana in the early 1990s Jim Laesch showed a government officer a recently published New Testament from Liberia. Mautlhe, a Shekgalagari speaker replied, “This is what my people need!”

Lutheran Bible Translators first sent missionaries to live in the Kgalagari region—where the language is most vibrant—in 2009. Since then, strong local vision and leadership has united the far-flung Shekgalagari community and churches around language development. In 2013, the local project committee partnered with Lutheran Bible Translators and the Bible Society of Botswana to hire and train translation staff.

The translation team has drafted and community checked most of the New Testament and plans to publish and launch it in print and audio formats later this year.

#### April Birthdays

Ariana Schulte  
Tim Beckendorf  
Annaka Esala  
Elliot Derricks



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## April 2020 Prayer Calendar



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1. Pray for the LWML District Grant Proposal Committees as they review many proposals. LBT currently has four that are being reviewed. If approved, they will be on the district ballots at their upcoming conventions.

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2. Pray for language ability for Andrew and Alexis Olson as they continue their Kikerewe lessons.

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3. Pray for grace for Martin and Joan Weber as they pack and prepare to leave Cameroon.

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4. Pray for Christians and translation projects that are in areas experiencing persecution.

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5. Praise God for Ali Federwitz and Sarah Esala and the phenomenal member care they provide to LBT missionaries and staff.

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6. Pray for missionary kids who are homeschooling and their parents who are guiding this process.

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7. Pray for Ariana Schulte as she continues her year-long internship and adjusts to life in a new country.

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8. Pray for the Bokyi Literacy and Scripture Engagement team as they train and equip teachers to teach Bokyi in the primary schools.

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9. Pray for good connections and a time of rest for the Grulke family as they begin their time of furlough in the US.

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10. Pray for the strong community partnerships within LBT language programs.

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11. Praise God for the aviation ministry of Jonathan and Carrie Federwitz in service to Bible translation in Papua New Guinea.

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12. He is risen! He is risen, indeed, Alleluia! May this good news continue to go forth into the world and into every language.

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13. Pray for wisdom and discernment for Tim Beckendorf as he continues his work with the Khwedam translation team.

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14. Pray for good connections for Mike Kuhn as he continues traveling for partnership development. Pray also for God's gracious and protecting presence with Kara as she parents alone during this time.

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15. Pray that God would give the sending churches of LBT missionaries joy in their partnership in the Gospel and a greater understanding for how they can come alongside their missionary to support them in body, mind, and spirit.

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16. Pray for Jim Laesch as he works with LBT's Tanzania team and ministry partners in new mission exploration this month.

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17. Pray that Annaka Esala will be rooted and grounded in Christ and will continue to be reminded of how much God loves her.

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18. Pray for Janet Borchard and the Ipili team as they work together on the translation of Exodus.

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19. Pray for Rich Rudowske as he is in PhD class intensives the remainder of the month.

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20. Pray that Elliot Derricks will continue to thrive as a husband, father and missionary as his work continues in Cameroon.

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21. Pray for the LBT representatives that will be at the FOBAI meetings in Greece as part of the translation and Scripture engagement development groups.

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22. Pray for peace and stability in the countries where LBT works.

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23. Pray for God's continued blessings on Linus Otronyi and his wife as they celebrate their first year of marriage together.

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24. Pray for the faculty and staff of the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics, partners in ministry with LBT, to prepare missionaries for service in Bible translation and Scripture engagement.

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25. Pray for the plans being made for the Concordia Mission Institute taking place in July to provide education, connection, and spiritual renewal.

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26. Pray for the Lord to raise up workers for missionary service with Lutheran Bible Translators.

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27. Praise God for the active participation of the rural Shekgalagari language communities in checking sessions of their nearly completed New Testament.

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28. Pray that Paul and Ali Federwitz will enjoy their time together as a family in between their hectic travel schedules.

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29. Praise God for Sarah Stilwell and a successful first year of working with Lutheran Bible Translators. Pray that she will continue to grow and thrive in her role as IT Coordinator.

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30. Pray that the translated Scriptures would be a powerful resource for churches to have sound teaching and to be equipped to deal with false teaching.

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