



**“If the New Testament had not been** translated into our language, people would still say that Christianity is for white people,” explained one young man. “Now we can hear and read and understand God’s Word in Komba.”

Until the completion of the Komba New Testament in 2014, the Komba people of northern Ghana were greatly influenced by traditional religious beliefs. Since then, the New Testament has reached families, churches and communities through written and audio formats as well as a Scripture app.

But the New Testament is only part of the story. Church leaders look forward to the day when the Old Testament will be available. Then the Komba will fully understand the scope of God’s plan, from Creation to the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies.

#### **December Birthdays**

Melissa Schweigert  
Isaac Esala  
Judah Grulke  
Paul Federwitz  
Joan Weber  
Serena Derricks  
Josiah Wagner  
Josh Wagner  
Alyssa Petty  
Kathy Knipmeyer



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## **December 2020 Prayer Calendar**



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1. Pray for continued wisdom and strength for Melissa Schweigert as she continues in her role as the HR manager.

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2. We thank God for the many years of service of Jim and Susan Kaiser with Lutheran Bible Translators and for their safe return to the field.

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3. Praise God for Stephanie Luetjen and the work she does as Lutheran Bible Translators finance assistant!

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4. Pray for Tilahun Mendedo as he prepares for and shares the mission of LBT at an in-person event in Kansas City this month.

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5. Pray that Isaac Esala's love for Jesus deepens and that he learns to walk in the ways of Christ.

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6. Pray that God would grant Kierien Ekpang wisdom as he works through the first draft of his PhD dissertation proposal.

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7. Pray for good checking sessions as the Tarok translation team and Chuck Tessaro go through part of Ezekiel.

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8. Pray for the students in the Linguistics and Bible Translation department at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria as they write exams.

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9. Pray that missionaries who are making presentations and meeting with people in person will have wisdom in how to share the story and keep their families safe and healthy.

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10. Pray for Emily Wilson as she transitions into an expanded role with Lutheran Bible Translators.

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11. Pray for Rev. Linus Otronyi as he wraps up the first semester of PhD work.

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12. Pray that Judah Grulke will continue to grow healthy and strong in body and spirit.

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13. Pray for discernment for the individuals exploring missions with Lutheran Bible Translators.

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14. Pray for the Themne team as they check the book of Psalms and prepare it for community reviewing.

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15. Pray for the millions of people around the world waiting to hear the good news of Christ in a language they can understand.

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16. Pray for wisdom and patience for Jim Laesch and Rev. David Federwitz as they support missionaries and juggle the responsibilities of directing Bible translation work in many countries.

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17. Pray for missionary kids attending school away from home as they return home for the holiday season.

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18. Praise God for the passion Joan Weber has had to help more people in Cameroon have God's Word in their heart language.

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19. Pray that God will sustain and guide Serena Derricks as she continues to grow in her role as wife, mother, and missionary.

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20. Pray that God would give sending churches of LBT missionaries joy in their partnership in the Gospel.

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21. Pray for Josiah Wagner as he learns, plays, and develops skills in carpentry and engineering.

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22. Pray for the Wagner family as they continue to receive care and help through Ruthie's recovery and treatment for migraines and neurological issues.

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23. Praise God for the dedication of the staff of LBT Gift Records and pray that they will have renewed energy during the busy holiday and end of the year time.

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24. Praise God for Joshua Wagner's life, and pray that he will continue to be used for God's glory in Scripture use efforts.

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25. May your heart be lifted in praise this Christmas for the wonderful gift of Jesus and the joy He brings to our lives.

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26. Pray for Carl and Kelsey Grulke as they make final preparations to return to Botswana.

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27. Pray for Alyssa Petty as she continues to thrive in her role as Lutheran Bible Translators development assistant.

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28. Praise God for the blessings God has granted Kathy Knipmeyer and her family and pray that many more will come over the next year.

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29. Pray for the planning and preparation of the upcoming new year and missionary visits to the international office.

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30. Join us in giving thanks to God for the continued blessings of 2020 and pray that God will continue to bless the work of Bible translation in the new year.

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31. Pray for good communication and common vision as LBT works with their partners during this next year.

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