



The goal of **Aramaic Bible translation** is to translate God's Word into all modern Aramaic dialects. Speakers of these languages can trace their Christian roots back almost 2,000 years.

War and violence have displaced many Aramaic Christians from their homelands. Rob Hilbert of Lutheran Bible Translators, himself a descendant of Assyrian grandparents, is assisting with the project.

“As war and unrest continues in Syria, Iraq and other parts of the Middle East, more Aramaic Christians are being forced from their homes. Many have emigrated to the U.S. among other western countries. By providing the comfort of Scripture in their own language, we can help the Church better serve them and assuage some of the trauma they have endured.”

A member of the Chaldean translation team relates how instead of opening his store, one shop owner sat in his car for over an hour listening to audio Scripture. “This is so interesting I cannot leave it!” he said.

Put God's Word in their hands!

April Birthdays

Tim Beckendorf
Annaka Esala
Elliot Derricks



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April 2021 Prayer Calendar



1. Pray for God's blessings of safety and joy upon the Komba churches as they gather for an Easter convention (Ghana).

2. Praise God for the gifts he has given Sarah Stilwell in information technology. Pray that God would continue to enrich her and her family as they connect with their church community.

3. Pray for the partner organizations of Lutheran Bible Translators that God would lead them with His wisdom and truth as they seek His will.

4. Praise God for His victory over sin and death for our salvation in His death and resurrection!

5. Pray that God will bless Tiffany Smith with fruitful interactions as she networks with individuals, small groups, and organizations to share about her ministry (Pre-field, U.S.).

6. Pray for God's blessings of joy and peace for Dr. Jim and Susan Kaiser as they celebrate their wedding anniversary.

7. Pray that God will bless the leadership of Marlis Norton as she faithfully serves as Vice-Chair of Lutheran Bible Translators' Board of Directors.

8. Pray for God to bless the virtual presentations and conversations with students at Concordia University Nebraska over the next week.

9. Pray for healing and guidance for Pastor Mandita Kunum's son, Willy. Pray that God will continue to bless the Ipili translation team (Papua New Guinea).

10. Praise God for the 10th wedding anniversary of Kent and Alyssa (LBT staff member) Petty. Pray that God will continue to bring them joy and sustain them.

11. Pray God's peace and wisdom for Rev. Dr. Tilahun Menedo as he connects with donors and preaches in Florida and California this month.

12. Pray that God would protect and provide for the needs of LBT personnel as they travel internationally.

13. Pray that God would enrich and renew Rev. Tim and Lisa Beckendorf as they serve faithfully among the Khwedam people (Botswana).

14. Pray for God's blessings of energy and enthusiasm upon the Kerewe translation team in Tanzania as they grow in their skills and abilities.

15. Praise God for the connections God has made for Dr. Chris and Janine Pluger in building prayer and financial partners. Pray that God will continue to bless their conversations (Pre-field, Ethiopia).

16. Pray that good communications can be maintained with teams in the Aramaic Bible translation programs in the Middle East.

17. Pray that Annaka Esala's relationship with God would flourish and she would find ways to integrate her faith and daily life.

18. Pray that God will bless LIBTRALO with His wisdom as they develop new and innovative outreach programs (Liberia).

19. Pray that God will continue to work in and through literacy classes in Sierra Leone, so more people will come to faith through reading His Word.

20. Pray that God would bless Elliot and Serena Derricks and their family with joy as they serve faithfully among the Subula* people (Cameroon).

21. Pray for God's guidance, wisdom, and clarity for Rev. Linus Otronyi as he facilitates translation workshops and community involvement (Nigeria).

22. Pray that God would bless Michaela Federwitz with His wisdom as she prepares for her ministry to serve as a nanny for Rev. Mike and Kara Kuhn's children (Pre-field, Cameroon).

23. Pray for God's direction and blessing upon the Old Testament audio recording projects in the Ipili language in Papua New Guinea.

24. Pray that God will guide and bless Rev. Kierien Ayugha as he serves at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria.

25. Pray for Sarah Esala as she continues to grow in her role as regional director and begins working more directly with partners (U.S.).

26. Praise God for the many language communities in Nigeria seeking God's Word in their own language. Pray that God will bless the work of audio recordings, Scripture songs, and dubbing for the Jesus Film.

27. Pray that sufficient educational materials are available for teachers and literacy students in the Fakki* language community, so more people will be able to read the New Testament (Togo).

28. Pray for perseverance and God's blessings upon the Khwedam translation team as they make final preparations before the publication of Scripture portions (Botswana).

29. Pray for God's blessings upon Amy Formella and the Mende Old Testament translation team members as they continue to make progress and engage Mende speakers (Sierra Leone).

30. Pray for God's blessings of wisdom and discernment upon Lutheran Bible Translators' board of directors as they meet today and tomorrow.

*pseudonym used due to sensitive situation