



Lutheran Bible  
Translators

# Proclaim to Every Nation

The Plugers in Ethiopia

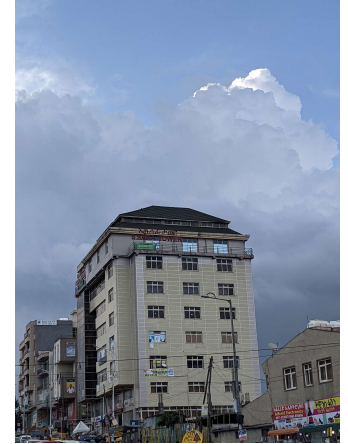
September 2021

## We're here!

On August 4<sup>th</sup>, with two cats, six suitcases, and two carry-ons, we arrived in Ethiopia! The flight from Chicago was long but direct — an easy trip for anyone who wants to come and visit us in the future.

We were met at the airport by fellow LBT missionary Jim Kaiser. Jim and his wife Susan (our downstairs neighbors) have really gone out of their way to help us feel comfortable. The Kaisers have been in Ethiopia for 7 years and are helping us learn the ropes — everything from grocery shopping to trash pickup to veggie deliveries to electrical and battery backup systems. They even fed us for the first week while our kitchen was under construction.

Less than a week later, we celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with a trip to a gorgeous Italian restaurant. Here's to many years of happiness in our beautiful blue house!



## Settling in

During our last six weeks in the US, we traveled to 12 different states visiting friends, relatives, and a missions conference. Our first few weeks in Ethiopia felt similarly chaotic. But now we are starting to settle in to life and routine in Addis Ababa, including beautiful rainy-season cityscapes on our way to the bakery!

A big part of our daily life is now language learning. Our tutor comes from 9am to noon five days a week. The dolls in the picture above are some of the many props and pictures she uses to help us internalize vocabulary and sentence structures. Amharic is definitely a challenge! But we get the chance to practice our growing skills every day as we explore our neighborhood and meet shopkeepers, taxi drivers, and our Ethiopian national partners.

We still have lots to do. Our work permits and drivers licenses are still being sorted out. There's still some construction going on to put an outside stairway on the house and a persistent water leak we can't track down. The cats haven't adjusted to Ethiopian food as quickly as we have. But we praise God for the "soft landing" he gave us on arrival and for the peace that comes from settling in to a new home.



## Our Mission

*Millions of people don't have the Bible in a language they understand. Lutheran Bible Translators partners with individuals, organizations, and language communities to put God's Word in their hands.*

## Prayers

- For Sean's new school year.
- For our language & culture learning.
- For continued peace as we settle into the routines of our new life.
- For all those affected by the flooding on campus.

*Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to **proclaim** to those who live on the earth—to **every nation, tribe, language and people.***

—Revelation 14:6

## Flood on Campus

On August 17<sup>th</sup>, less than two weeks after we arrived in Addis, the river that borders our campus, swollen from torrential summer rains, rose quickly out of its banks and flooded many homes, offices, and other buildings. Many campus families lost their homes and classes have been suspended. Eight people were killed, including three children.

Our house, thankfully, was spared from the flood. The photo below shows the street just out front — the bushes on the right are the border of our yard. The buildings on the left, however, suffered a lot of damage. Notice the large white truck that has floated against the fence in the compound down the road.

Another American Lutheran missionary family's house was completely flooded by six feet of muddy river water. We helped them shovel mud and sort through possessions after the water had receded; they lost almost everything.

We pray for God's comfort and peace to those who lost family, possessions, and homes in the flood, and we remember that our true home is in heaven with our Savior Jesus.

<https://ilc-online.org/2021/08/27/eight-dead-after-flash-flood-at-ethiopian-seminary/>



## Correspondence

Lutheran Bible Translators  
PO Box 789 Concordia, MO 64020-0789  
Phone: (660) 225-0810

## Contact

Chris & Janine Pluger  
chris-janine.pluger@lbt.org  
WhatsApp: +251 97 438 3213  
[www.LBT.org/pluger](http://www.LBT.org/pluger)