



# Carl and Kelsey GRULKE

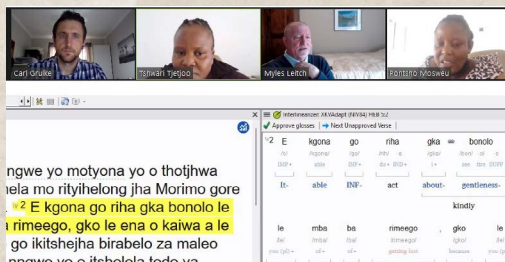
MaryJane, Audrey, Judah, Gideon & Isaac

*We all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done! - Acts 2:11*



## March 2022 Update

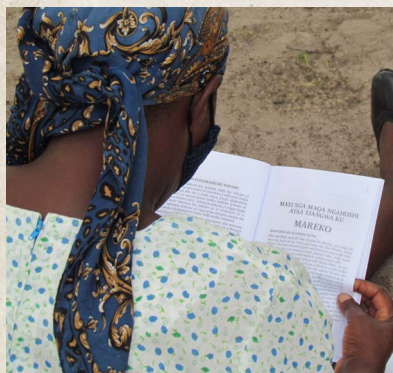
**Ngwaga o mosha!** Happy New Year! In Botswana, the first time you see a person in the new year, you greet them with “happy new year,” even if it’s already March! This year is off to a great start and we’re so excited to share about what’s going on in Botswana.



By the time you’re reading this, the whole New Testament will have been through all four translation steps: drafting, team review, community review and consultant checking. Now, we are preparing to publish! This in itself is a huge undertaking: typesetting, final proof-read, printing and shipping. The New Testament will be printed in South Korea (did you know most Bibles in the world are printed in South Korea?) and then shipped to us here in Botswana.

Due to worldwide shipping problems and the ongoing effects of the pandemic, production and shipping are slow. Pray with us for the New Testament to be available in print to the Bakgalagari soon! While we wait for printing, we’ll be busy recording an audio version of the New Testament, as well as turning it into a smartphone app. The advisory committee will be busy planning a launch celebration for this amazing accomplishment.

Before we came to Botswana, we trained for a year through the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics (now Dallas International University). Kelsey began a master in World Arts with an emphasis in Scripture Engagement. She’s been taking classes one at a time to finish the degree. This term, Kelsey is taking Directed Practicum in World Arts. The bulk of the class is learning an artform from a culture that’s not your own, so Kelsey has taken up the local tradition of basket making. It’s been a great way to learn more about local cultures and practice Setswana!



The Wayeyi team is working hard and making progress! Last year, we shared with you how we were able to release the audio version of the book of Mark as well as the app version alongside the printed version. There was much excitement surrounding the launch, but we weren’t sure if the recording was making a difference long-term. Then, we got a report from the team that, on their most recent community checking visit to the same villages, people were reading the material to the team! Usually, the team reads to the community, but they had been using the book of Mark and the accompanying audio to teach themselves to read Shiyeyi. Praise God with us for this exciting news, and pray with us for guidance as we explore literacy-building ideas with the team and community.

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**GIVING:** <https://lbt.org/grulke>



Lutheran Bible  
Translators





**Do you see the hippo in this picture?**

## How you can help

**PRAY** We need people praying for our family, the projects, the translators and more. Look right for more specifics!

**GIVE** We need the financial support of partners like you to make this work and ministry possible. Give online at **lbt.org/grulke** or by mailing a check to LBT. Regular gifts make a big difference!

**TELL** We need people to support us in raising awareness for our ministry. You can share the mission of Bible translation with your church or friends!

Several potential new projects are being explored as well. There are possibilities for translation work in Botswana Sign Language, Chiikuhane, Tjetwapong, Timbukushu, and more. Kelsey and our colleague Dr. Megahan traveled to northeastern Botswana recently to explore partnering with Chiikuhane speakers in translation. Pray with us for guidance on the best way to partner with local communities so that everyone in Botswana has easily understood scripture available to them.



*Luke 13:34 "...how often I have wanted to gather your children together as a hen protects her chicks beneath her wings..."*

This is such a lovely image of God as a mother hen, gathering her chicks under her wings. God longs to keep us safe, to hide us from the storms and troubles of this life. How often we are unwilling to be gathered in! I am so thankful for a God that longs for that closeness with us and with all people around the world. Pray with us that all people would have access to God's word, so that they too could be gathered under God's great wings of protection.

## What's coming next?

**April 4-7** - Last week of virtual consultant checking!

**April 8** - End of term 1 at Matshwane School

**Mid-April** - Trip to capital to renew the kids' passports

**April 17** - Happy Easter!

**May 2-6** - Strategic planning meetings for future of LBT work in Botswana

**May 5** - Kelsey's graduate school class ends

**May 6** - Happy birthday Carl!

**May 9** - Shekgalagari Advisory Committee meeting

**May 9** - Term 2 starts at Matshwane School

**May 14** - Wayeyi Advisory Committee meeting



The regional director for LBT will be here in May to discuss future possibilities for work here in Botswana, including current and new projects.

There are lots of needs and we have to think and pray about where God is leading us to best deploy our resources. Pray for us all during this week!

## Prayer requests for our family

For the Shekgalagari team as we continue to push towards our goal of publication, that God would bless us with the speed and technology we need to reach the finish.

For the Wayeyi communities as they embrace the translation project, that God would inspire a love for God's Word and for reading their own language in their hearts.

For continuing education opportunities, that we would be equipped to do the work we have been called to here in Botswana.

For the possibility of new projects and the language groups that still remain without Scripture here in Botswana.

**Thanks to your generous giving, we met our 2021 budget goal! Praise God!**