



# "TIFFANY IN TRANSITION"

Lutheran Bible  
Translators

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Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

If you know my newsletters, you'll notice immediately that this one looks different. If you know me personally, you know that I enjoy expressing myself artistically and creatively. Things are changing here at LBT for me, so I felt it warranted a temporary change in my letter as well! Don't be alarmed by the title. Unfortunately, our society has soiled the word "transition", but it perfectly describes where I am at right now in my career and life. Plus, it keeps my newsletter headline an alliteration, so I couldn't resist.

The transition that I am currently going through is a bittersweet one, but a change that I knew needed to happen. At the end of February after six months of training in the UK and a lot of private prayer and personal conversations with friends and family, I made the decision to inform LBT that the role as a translation advisor was not a good fit for me and I desire to be placed in a position where my natural gifts and passions can be used.

This was a hard call to make, because I knew that it meant I would no longer work in the Deaf Bible translation project I mentioned in my last letter, and it could even mean that I would not return to Botswana. But I did promise God when I took this job a year ago that I would go where He called me, and I still promise that today. Where that is, I currently don't know. My regional director is working to find me a placement - I hope to know more by this Summer.



Left: A class back in October: Healthy Community Engagement. During this class I learned a lot about myself, how to work well with others, and how to help get communities involved in a Bible translation project out on the field!

Right: A selfie with my 'Oral Bible Storying' classmates and teacher at the end of our module. It was by far one of my favorite classes and opened my eyes to unique and creative ways to be involved in Bible Translation!

*"The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere."*

JAMES 3:17



I hope to be placed in the role of a Community Engagement Specialist. This type of position caters more to my strengths: communications, making connections, and listening well to partners and communities. The goal in Bible translation is to have God's Word integrated meaningfully into the lives of the community. We've learned that strong community involvement in the project leads to Scripture being used. I hope to help by fostering strong connections in a community and using my knowledge to help the community build a strong foundation for their project.

I wish I could describe to you all the details over the last few months that led to this change. What I will say is I learned a lot about myself as I attended classes at Moorlands, read Scripture, and talked with fellow Christians that made me realize that shifting my role would be best, even if it complicated the process for now.

I'm so thankful that everyone in my organization has taken very well to this transparency, and I am even happier to say that many pieces are starting to fall into place for this new position! In the meantime, I am continuing to raise my funds as usual and will update you as I learn more about my new role. I am so grateful you are, in some way or another, on this crazy journey with me! God bless you, keep you and give you His Peace.

# Further News and Prayer Requests:



## PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Pray for my new placement within LBT. I want to be put somewhere where God can use my innate gifts and skills to build His kingdom.

Pray for my upcoming visits to churches and LWML conventions to build my donor base and share what I am doing in this ministry.

Pray for my colleagues in Botswana as they work around this change and for the Botswana Signed Bible Project as they begin their project soon!

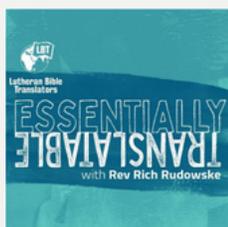
Praise for my community here in the US and overseas who are supporting me spiritually and/or financially. I would not be as confident and optimistic as I am in my present circumstances if it wasn't for your support!

## BUDGET UPDATE

3-Year Budget Goal: \$85,000  
Current Funding: \$47,323  
Remaining Funds Needed : \$37,677

### Special Project 2022: Vehicle

While in Africa I will need a reliable and comfortable vehicle for traveling between villages and cities for my job. A car that's efficient and durable enough for African roads can cost anywhere between \$20-30,000. To designate funds for this project, please specify "Smith Vehicle Project" on the memo line of checks or use the drop-down tab in my missionary bio on LBT's website!



Check out LBT's podcast where I am featured in a couple episodes to learn more about our mission and my story! Also check out the New Testament put to music, which you can find at [lbt.org/LivingWater!](http://lbt.org/LivingWater!)

TO GIVE: [www.lbt.org/Tiffany-Smith](http://www.lbt.org/Tiffany-Smith)

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