



**Lutheran Bible
Translators**

Proclaim to Every Nation

The Plugers in Ethiopia

May 2022

Happy Easter! መልካም ፋሲካ!

Addis Ababa has a very Christian culture. There are churches on seemingly every street. We hear prayers and sermons via loudspeaker from the nearby Orthodox church almost every day. Restaurants have special “fasting” menus to accommodate Lent, when Orthodox Christians abstain from all animal products. There are many other religious festivals and holidays throughout the year.

Holy Week is a busy time, with prayer and penitential services all week long, culminating in a Vigil service that lasts until the wee hours of Easter morning followed by joyous feasting with family.

Thanks to two different calendars, we were blessed to celebrate Western Easter with other Americans and then Orthodox Easter a week later with our Ethiopian friends. What a special time!

ክሪስቶስ ተነሰቷል! Kristos Tenestwal! Christ is Risen!



“Groundbreaking” Work

Shortly after we arrived in Ethiopia last August, a devastating flood swept through the campus where we live. Several people were killed, including children who could not escape from their houses in time. Our house was spared, but many were not, leaving campus workers and their families without homes.

In cooperation with other organizations, Lutheran Bible Translators has helped to raise money to build a new ten-story mixed-use (commercial and residential) building. The bottom floors will be rented for income generation, and the top floors will provide safe, convenient, flood-proof housing for campus families. Chris had fun participating in the ground-breaking ceremony!

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 our Amharic lessons.
- For Ethiopian Bible Translation teams – safety, health, and progress in time of drought and conflict
- For wisdom and faithfulness for Sean in a time of transition.

*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

Language Learning Update

We are still spending a majority of our time in Amharic language school. We have “graduated” to the stage where we are reading fairy tales (like Goldilocks and Cinderella) in Amharic and answering written questions. (The Amharic script makes this a little bit hard!) We are also reading selections from a children’s Bible story book. And of course there is plenty of conversation practice — with our teachers, but also with taxi drivers, shopkeepers, neighbors, and pretty much everyone else who wants us to hurry up and learn to speak their language!

We feel like we’re still a long way from where we want to be — able to discuss the nuances of Bible translation in Amharic with teams in the field — but we’re definitely improving and steadily on our way to being able to negotiate daily life in Ethiopia in our new host language!

Bible Translation Conference

Translation teams from around the country gathered in Addis recently to receive training, do strategic planning, and encourage one another with stories and progress reports from their various projects. Three new OT books on audio SD cards were dedicated by one team, and Chris gave a short presentation. Please pray for the teams – their work, their safety, and their zeal to bring God’s Word to every language in Ethiopia!



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