



# they will See and Understand

ISAIAH 52:15; ROMANS 15:21

## SUMMER 2022

Hi from Northfield, Minnesota! COVID struck our family last month, but we are better. Ruthie is settled into her new roles and working with folks both in the USA and overseas, particularly with the Kerewe Bible Translation team in Tanzania. Thanks for being part of our team, supporting and sharing life with us in this effort to **PUT GOD'S WORD IN THEIR HANDS!**

### THE FACE OF BIBLE TRANSLATION

What do you picture when you think of Bible Translation? Maybe a missionary from your town heading to a foreign field via three airplanes and a lot of homesickness. Maybe you know someone struggling with typhoid and malaria while tackling language learning, tones, strange phonology, fish heads and barracuda eyeballs. Maybe someone who gets to have the adventure of their dreams while also being able to work with the Word of God everyday. Our family is familiar with this. We are also familiar now with what is becoming more and more the face of Bible Translation—the West playing an increasingly minor role, and the majority church—Africans and Asians—playing dominant roles.

It is a privilege to serve with Lutheran Bible Translators where we have missionaries serving as professors at a seminary in Ethiopia, recently graduating 14 students to focus on Bible translation project development and management. We have missionaries serving as consultants, who are based in the USA and travel to various projects teaching, equipping, and checking translations, then stepping back again to watch projects' progression as they are led by local churches and organizations.

I, Ruthie, am thrilled to serve as Exegete for Tanzania projects, where from Minnesota, I will help develop curriculum and training videos to teach local translators best practices and a variety of translation theories to help them run their projects to produce accurate, clear, natural, and relevant Bible translations. I am also serving as Archive Curator for the organization. My training as a linguist helps to organize, tag, and make available countless published materials by members of LBT through its lifetime. We want anyone to have access to our publications, articles, surveys, local language materials, etc., with the click of a button.

*Please say a special prayer for Ruthie's mom who has been diagnosed with lung cancer.*

May the Lord bless you in your own service of Him. "You shall serve the Lord your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you." *Exodus 23:25*

♥ *Ruthie & Josh Wagner*

Elijah (10), Isaiah (8), Josiah (6.5), & Elizabeth (4.5)  
*Missionaries with Lutheran Bible Translators*



### WHO WE ARE

The Wagner Family serves with Lutheran Bible Translators; first, several years in Sierra Leone working alongside the Themne people in Translation & Scripture Use; and now as Archive Curator and Exegete for the Kerewe Bible Translation Project in Tanzania.

*Making God's Word accessible to those who do not yet have it in the language of their hearts. (LBT's Mission)*

### TIMELINE

- JULY** Isaiah's 8<sup>th</sup> on 9<sup>th</sup>; Concordia Mission Institute / LBT meetings 10-16<sup>th</sup>—These went very well!
- AUG-DEC** Ruthie's 36<sup>th</sup> on the 6<sup>th</sup>; Ruthie working as Archive Curator and Exegete for Tanzania, particularly the Kerewe Translation Project
- SEPT** Set goals and budget for 2023, pray for wisdom for me and the organization and all our partners who are submitting grant requests
- OCT** Lizzie's 5<sup>th</sup> on the 10<sup>th</sup>

### TAKE ACTION

**JOIN** our "Wagner Updates" group on Facebook! This is where we update most frequently.

[facebook.com/groups/wagnerupdates](https://www.facebook.com/groups/wagnerupdates)

**GIVE** to "Wagner Ministry" online or by mailing a check. Please contact us or LBT if you'd like to set up automatic giving.

**PRaise** for excellent meetings during Concordia Mission Institute in Concordia, Missouri! A wonderful time to be shoulder-to-shoulder with many other missionaries.

**PRAY** for the Kerewe Translation Team as they undergo specialized training, focusing on the relevance of translation and how to consider audience for relevance and emotive impact.

### CONTACT/SUPPORT

✉ [Josh-Ruthie.Wagner@LBT.org](mailto:Josh-Ruthie.Wagner@LBT.org)

[facebook.com/groups/wagnerupdates](https://www.facebook.com/groups/wagnerupdates)

📞 612-433-1199 (call or text)

🏠 LBT will forward "Wagner" mail to us.



Designate "Wagner Ministry"

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[www.lbt.org/give](http://www.lbt.org/give)

THIS IS THE  
KEREWEE TEAM  
IN TANZANIA,  
WITH WHOM  
RUTHIE IS  
WORKING!



Mr. Protaz Mageza (Back-translator and Translator-in-training), Rev. Domisian Alloys (Coordinator), Rev. Laurent Malelo (Translator), Evangelist Sospeter Makene (Translator), Rev. Samweli Mahendeka (Translator), Rev. Oscar Lema (Assistant Bishop and Project Manager), Mrs. Esperantia (Retired Translator)

Are you new to Wagner Updates? Please introduce yourself and contact us if you have any questions about our ministry.

RECURRING SUPPORT

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

100%