



# 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*



## December 2022 Update

Looking back at 2022, it has been a very busy year! Here's an update on where things are in Botswana:

The **Shekgalagari** team has been hard at work with the proofreading stage of the New Testament. Honestly, we had hoped to be done with this stage by now and on to getting things printed, but we've hit some slow downs in the process. This has been demotivating, but we are continuing to press on towards our goal of getting God's Word into the hands of Bakgalagari people all over the country.



Please pray for us during this time, that we would be strengthened for this task, the challenge it presents and that we would not get discouraged. **Lord willing, we will be close to our goal by the time this newsletter is in your hands!**



The **Wayeyi** team celebrated a huge milestone in November. They dedicated the Gospel of Matthew in a ceremony here in Maun. The Vice President of Botswana was in attendance, which was a very prestigious thing for the Wayeyi people. Praise God for this event!

Kelsey also recorded the **audio version** of the Gospel of Matthew and created another **smart-phone app** for people to use. We have seen wonderful success with this app in the language communities and hope that success continues. Carl will take a more active role as exegete in this project in 2023, so pray for the team as they prepare for this transition.

Next year, we will begin a **Botswana Language Exploration Project**. The goal of this project will be to determine the language use situation on the ground in the 31 language communities here in Botswana. This research will guide our planning and development of future projects.



This project received a grant from one of our partner organizations and LBT will coordinate with other organizations in the region to maximize the impact of this research. We have **already identified 2 language communities that want to start a translation project** and plan to connect with 6 others. Pray for these partnerships to bear much fruit here in Botswana!



The **Botswana Sign Language** team also began their work on a Bible translation. Sign language translations are a very different process, so there is a lot to learn for the team and we are still waiting the arrival of some of the video equipment for the team. Please pray for the team (Bayengi, Thato, Mopati, Baseki, Gao and Lethogonolo) as they adjust to life in Maun and get ready to start their translation work to serve the deaf communities in Botswana. We have also received a **capacity building grant** from Every Tribe Every Nation to help the local organizations here become more self-sufficient. Pray for those funds to be used well to strengthen our partners for their important work.

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Lutheran Bible  
Translators



**Sunset and the first stars coming out in the night sky over Kang.**

## 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 [ibt.org/grulke](http://ibt.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!



The last part of 2022 has been a big challenge for us medically. Among our 5 kids, we have been to the hospital 4 times in 3 months for a broken arm, stitches in the head, tonsillectomy and emergency appendectomy. We are thankful for the medical care we can get here and for your prayers and support, but it has been draining for all of us to deal with. We are hoping for time in the US to rest and recover from these challenges. Please continue to pray for us.

## What's coming next?

**Nov 27** - St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ames, IA

**Dec 4** - St. John's Lutheran Church, Evansville, WI

**Dec 11** - Christ Lutheran Church, Overland Park, KS

**Dec 12** - Happy birthday Judah!

**Dec 18** - Redemption Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN

**Dec 25** - Merry Christmas!

**Jan 1** - Fjeldberg Lutheran Church, Huxley, IA AND Trinity Lutheran Church, Des Moines IA

**Jan 6** - Happy anniversary Kelsey and Carl!

**Jan 8** - Grulkes depart for Botswana

**Jan 12** - Kelsey's final semester of master's degree begins!

**Jan 16** - New school year begins for kids at Matshwane



2023 will be a busy year for all of us. Many new things will be happening, new responsibilities will be added, and new projects will be starting. These are exciting things, but with transition comes challenges. Please pray for us as a new chapter of our time in Botswana begins.



We will be back in Botswana at the start of 2023. There will be lots to do, including many new things, so pray for us as we get ready for an action packed year!

## Prayer requests for our family

For the Shekgalagari team as we face challenges in the proofreading stage and keep preparing for the launch of the New Testament.

For the Wayeyi communities as they celebrate the dedication of the Gospel of Matthew, that God would fill their hearts with a love of the Word, transforming hearts and minds.

For the Botswana Language Exploration Project, that God would raise up people with a passion for Scripture so that more people can hear God's Word in their language

For the Botswana Sign Language team as they prepare to begin their translation work and for their video equipment to arrive soon so that training can continue

For Judah, Gideon and MaryJane as they recover from various medical issues.

For MaryJane as we consider new school options for her secondary education.

For our time in the United States later this year, that God would use it to refresh us, help us reconnect with family and friends, and allow us to connect with you!



As 2022 draws to a close, we want you to know that your gifts make this ministry possible in Botswana. **100% of the gifts that you give go toward Bible translation.**

We are so thankful for all of your support!

