



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



July 2023 Update

Shekgalagari New Testament proofread & sent to printer!



The proofreading team (from left): Obusitswe, Pontsho, Gaothope & Tshwaraganang

At the end of June, we completed the proofreading and typesetting process for the Shekgalagari New Testament. This involved a lot of careful checking and re-checking of the manuscript by specially hired proofreaders who had not interacted with the text before. We have now sent the completed manuscript on to the printer so that the New Testaments can be printed and shipped to us here in Botswana. That is a long and arduous journey, so please pray that our printed Bibles will be here on time for our scheduled launch on **November 25, 2023!**



Southern Africa Bible Translation Summit 2023

At the end of 2022, the need to have a gathering of different Bible translation organizations in the Southern Africa region was identified to help cooperation among the organizations, especially on cross-border projects. To that end, we wrote and received a grant to facilitate that gathering and on June 18-21, 2023, we gathered in Gaborone for the first ever Southern Africa Bible Translation Summit. 38 representatives from 18 Bible translation organizations that are active in 8 different countries were present at the summit and were able to join together in discussions and sharing about our shared goal of Bible translation.

It was an amazing blessing to have so many people gathered together for this summit. We were able to share about our work in different countries, coordinate on some possible shared projects, network together, explore some training options and spend time meeting, talking and encouraging each other.

This summit was a lot of work for Carl, doing all the planning and organizing on his own. But the payoff has been already realized in new partner connections and shared information. A newly formed planning committee is already working on a plan for the next summit in the region and we are looking forward to it!

Botswana Sign Language Bible Translation Project officially launched in June 2023



The official launch of the Botswana Sign Language Bible Translation Project took place on June 15, 2023, here in Maun. There were many representatives of churches, government ministers, international supporters and deaf people in attendance. The celebration was a wonderful event and very encouraging to the sign language team. They were able to share some of their first completed translations with the group and a group of local deaf students shared some of their dancing skills. We are excited to see where God takes this project in the future!

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Kelsey completed her master's degree program and now has her M.A. in World Arts with an emphasis in Scripture Engagement. We stayed up until 3:00 a.m. in order to watch her graduation! Kelsey is excited to keep using her skills here and is looking to bring her Scripture engagement expertise to other LBT projects.



The Makgadagadi Pans are a wonderful and unique feature in Botswana. We recently had the opportunity to sleep out under the stars out on the pans and it was a wonderful experience for us all!



Thanks to all of you who made gifts towards our new vehicle purchase! We got close enough to our goal to make a purchase of a new (to us) Nissan Navara. We hope this vehicle will serve our family for many years to come! There is still a need for funds towards this ministry need. If you want to make a contribution to this, you can give online at **lbt.org/give** and select the Grulke Vehicle Project or write "Grulke Vehicle Fund" in the memo of a check and mail it to LBT.

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!

What's coming next?

August 4 - Last day of the school term at Matshwane

August 5-13 - Grulkes are going on vacation!

August 21 - First day of school in US for MaryJane!

September 4 - Happy birthday Kelsey!

September 11 - Term 3 begins for Matshwane Primary School

September 29 - Happy birthday Gideon & Isaac!

October 13-19 - Carl @ Bible Translation Conference in TX

November 25 - Shekgalagari New Testament dedication!



MaryJane is going to be attending high school in Colordao starting in the fall. This is a big transition for us all, so pray for us as we navigate this new chapter of life!

Prayer requests for our family

For the Shekgalagari team as they prepare for the New Testament dedication on November 25, that God would bless their efforts and planning.

For the Wayeyi team, as they continue to work on their translation, that God would continue to renew the passion for the Shiyeyi language among the people.

For the Botswana Sign Language team as they celebrate their official launch and turn their attention towards their translation work.

For the connections made and celebrated through the Summit, that God would bless translation work in the region through all of the organizations.

For Kelsey's new degree, that God would use her gifts to bless many projects and people.

For MaryJane and our family, that we would adjust to having an ocean between us (!) and a whole new school environment for her.

For our new vehicle, that it will last for many years to come in this rough terrain.

For us as we think about how God is leading and guiding our family here in Botswana and what our future here holds.

PLEDGED MONTHLY SUPPORT

73%