

"My heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved..." | ROMANS 10



Wapendwa Ndugu wa Kristo,
(Dear brothers and sisters in Christ)

July came and went quickly, but I personally felt that a lot was accomplished in such a short time. I attended a meeting for Bible translation agencies called Summit, took a quick trip to Europe, and have seen small, but impactful steps taken to move forward in our Taturu translation program. As always, God is very good.

I experienced another "first" when the Fourth of July came around. Since I can remember, I have always been with family and friends on this major holiday, and on American soil. It was a bit strange (and almost lonely) trying to enjoy the day while all my neighbors and friends here in Tanzania were working, as it was just another day for them. I did invite five of my closest friends over for some food and fellowship in the evening. They enjoyed listening to our national anthem and asking me about the history of the US.

The following week I attended an annual Bible translation meeting called Summit, held in Dar es Salaam. I went with our local partners, Rev. Dr. Daniel Mono and Rev. Oscar Lema, who are program managers for our translation projects, and great representatives for the local church since they are the assistant bishops of their respective Lutheran diocese. Summit is a gathering of Bible translation agencies from all over East Africa, who meet once a year to update one another on the work they are doing and to share ideas. Some of the discussion topics that I found the most inspiring were the emphasis on church involvement in our translation programs and brainstorming ways which our translators and other members of the translation team can have affordable, practical access to Bible translation training. This sparked the idea of designing a Bible translation program to be a regular part of curriculum at seminaries here in Tanzania.

The third week of July I went to a nearby village called Bubiki, where we worshipped and saw several people be baptized! I was invited by the pastor of my church here in Mwadui, and it was a long afternoon of singing, praying and preaching. I was given an opportunity to share about our work in LBT with the crowd. It's good to spread awareness of what we are doing here in Tanzania!

At the end of July I met the Kerewe translation team and sat in on their seminar, led by my LBT colleague Ruthie Wagner, as well as observe a community review there on Ukerewe Island. I've been wanting to meet the team and visit Ukerewe for months now, and this community review was the perfect opportunity. *(Continued on back)*



STAY IN TOUCH

EMAIL: TIFFANY.SMITH@LBT.ORG

If you would like to give to my ministry, please mail all checks to Lutheran Bible Translators' headquarters at the address below, or give online.



2023 Funding:  70%



Vehicle Need

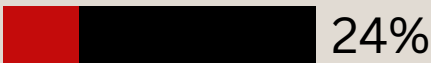
Thank you so much for praying for the funding of this vehicle and for your contributions thus far. Keep 'em coming!

My goal is to raise enough money by October or November so that I can have the new car in my possession by the start of 2024.

Please pray and consider giving to this special vehicle project soon!

You can designate gifts to "Smith Vehicle Project" by check or online at the addresses on the bottom of this page. Thank you for your support!

Current Vehicle Funding:



Prayers and Praise

Philippians 4:6-7

Pray: For my vehicle funding goal to be reached by the end of this year.

Praise: That my general funding for 2023 is doing well! Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry.

Pray: That our upcoming workshop encourages, educates and inspires the attendees. Pray also for the safe arrival of the LBT facilitators who are coming from the US for this event.

Praise: For friends around the world who pray for one another!

Praise: For the birth of my nephew, Levi! He was born on August 4th and is a happy, healthy baby!

The purpose of a community review is to test the naturalness of the text and to get honest feedback from a variety of members of the language community. The Kerewe project has already translated and checked several books, the Gospels, Acts, and Jonah. Now, by request of the community, they are translating the Pentateuch, starting with Genesis. During the community review, they read through the first fifteen chapters of Genesis, then gave their feedback to the translation team. I loved seeing the cooperation of everyone present: the non-judgmental criticisms and suggestions, and the participation of more than 10 church denominations at this community review. God's Word is for all Christians, not just the Lutherans, so it is important to have all Christians represented at meetings such as this one.

In July I was also blessed to be able to take a short trip to Switzerland to see my friend get married. I met this wonderful group of people (*pictured below*) during my missionary training in England a couple years ago. It was hard saying goodbye to them a second time, just as hard as the first time when we all



Left: My friends and I from England together again!

Right: I made some little friends at a nearby village called Bubiki

left England. We are all missionaries living in different parts of the world, so it is undetermined when we will all be together again face to face. Although it was a fast trip, I soaked in every moment, and I loved that our final words together before heading to the airport were lifted up in prayer for one another.

Now that I am back home in Mwadui, the next step is to prepare for the workshop at the end of this month. If you remember the 3-language workshop we had back in February, this upcoming workshop will be the "Part 2", so-to-speak. The attendants are speakers from Sumbwa, Kara, and Taturu language communities, and our hopes are to find 2-3 translators for each language program. Not everyone can be hired as a translator, but they will still have important roles to play as members of their community. I will be joined by a few men from LBT who will be facilitating the workshop: Michael Megahan, Jim Laesch, and Nathan Esala. I have been asked to lead a session on community engagement, for which I am both nervous and excited. We want our projects to be community-led, so I am looking forward to encouraging the workshop attendees and sharing ways they can get their community involved with these translation programs!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. It's nice to hear from you through email and messages! I love connecting with you all and hearing your stories of how God is working through your lives, just as He is working through mine.



Left: Summit gathering in Dar es Salaam Right: I have really enjoyed sharing my ukulele with friends here in Mwadui!