



Lutheran Bible Translators

A Little Federwitz Family

Joining Lutheran Bible Translators

August 22, 2023



WE ARE OFFICIAL!

Nathan and Sarah Federwitz are officially Lutheran Bible Translators missionaries! Our life has been busy since our last letter—Sarah’s internship ended, we traveled across the country, started new jobs, and moved to a new state! We will go over more details later in this letter.

Before that, we want to introduce ourselves for anyone who might be reading about us for the first time.

Nathan is a third-generation missionary. He grew up in Papua New Guinea before attending Concordia University Wisconsin where he received a Director of Christian Ministries (DCM) certification. He then went to pursue his dream of becoming a pilot by getting his maintenance and commercial license from the School of Missionary Aviation Technology. Nathan’s longtime goal has been to support the work of Bible translation through aviation.

Sarah recently received her master’s in Deaconess Studies from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. She desires to use her training and God-given gifts to support the Bible translation process.

We are hoping to be sent overseas within the next few years. We have some steps to complete before we can reach this goal. We hope that you will continue to follow our story as it unfolds and be praying for us along the way!



Nathan conducting our parish choir for the last time at our sending service in Perry, IA.

OUR LIFE LATELY

Sarah spent the first half of the summer finishing her internship at Perry Lutheran Homes. She enjoyed her final few weeks with her co-workers and the residents. She learned so much during our time in Iowa and is excited about how future deaconesses who follow her will be blessed by that experience.

Following a sweet send-off from our congregation, we drove our loaded-down cars to Sarah’s parents’ house. Then it was vacation time! We enjoyed fishing and kayaking on a lake in Wisconsin and taking a river cruise in Kentucky. The most exciting stop on our trip was at the Ark Encounter. We had heard it was impressive and after visiting it we completely agree. It was incredible to see the size of the ark and the amazing ways God must have provided for Noah, his family, and all of the animals. God certainly is great!



Nathan and Sarah at the Ark Encounter

After our vacation time, we began our employment with Lutheran Bible Translators. We were able to visit their office for a few days. We really enjoyed the opportunity to get to know our new coworkers. Very soon after this we moved down to North Carolina for Nathan to continue his flight training.

OUR NEXT STEPS

Nathan has been given a great opportunity to get the training necessary in order to be sent overseas as a missionary pilot. Lutheran Bible Translators has sent him to work for an organization called JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Relay Service). This missionary organization focuses on the aspects of missionary service that support the Bible translation process particularly in areas of transportation (aviation, maritime, and automotive) and communication.



LOOKING AHEAD

Within the next year we will begin to travel for speaking engagements. We would love to visit your church, Bible study, women's group, or any other meeting. We would love to share more on the work of Bible translation around the world and how aviation fits into it. **Please reach out to us if you are interested in partnering with us or if you would like us to come speak to your church or group.**

God has been leading us each step of the way as we have been working toward the goal of serving Bible translation through aviation. We trust that He will continue to do so. Our ministry will need to be fully funded before we can go overseas. Reaching this goal would not be possible without our prayer and financial partners. Please consider partnering with us and continue praying for our family and this ministry regularly. We will continue to send out prayer requests and updates regularly to keep you informed.

Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Hebrews 12:1-2

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for us as we adjust to life in North Carolina and our new roles as missionaries.
- Pray for Nathan as he resumes his flight training; that he would have good recollection and clarity to return to flying.
- Pray for Sarah as she learns to work remotely and prepares for classes to begin in the winter.
- Pray for our preparation and initial support-raising endeavors, that God would lead us to the right financial partners and that they would feel led to partner with us in this ministry.

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Nathan will be participating in what has been labeled “gap training.” Ordinarily, a pilot who wants to serve in missions would have to reach a minimum of 500 flight hours before getting the final training he needs before going overseas. Often pilots receive the 250 hours necessary to receive their commercial pilot rating but have a difficult time reaching 500 hours. This is where the idea of “gap training” comes in. Nathan is the first pilot JAARS has taken on in this situation. JAARS will work with Nathan to reach the required proficiency and training needed to be sent overseas.

At first, Nathan will be learning the processes at JAARS and refamiliarizing himself with flying through ground school (classroom learning), simulator flying and training in different types of aircraft and aspects of flying. He will be working closely with the training coordinator at JAARS throughout these next few months to get a clearer picture of how Nathan's training will continue to progress through the next year.

Sarah is working through the pre-field missionary resources that have been provided for her by Lutheran Bible Translators. These resources will set a foundation for her prior to going overseas. Sarah's primary missionary role has not yet been finalized. Starting in January, she will take a series of online courses focused on different aspects of the translation process. Her goal is to explore different roles and try to find one that might be most suited to her talents and interests.



Nathan and Sarah at the Lutheran Bible Translators office



Nathan checking fuel at JAARS



Our official missionary picture!

