



Lutheran Bible Translators

Consulting for Christ

Enabling Bible Translation in Africa

November 15, 2023

GOOD NEWS/GREAT JOY!

«Huura dhiiyya! Ishaama dhikk siip dhahenness masmasunt kaant kodhdhinann inni dheye; Aww sapara Taawit qalless dhinsampayt inni dhaladh, iyyanno Kristoosa Poldh kidha.» (Dirasha language)

«ዝሺዳኮይት! ዴሬ ኡዳ ጉሙርሴስ ማጎ ሎኦ ኪዕታ ኤኪቴት ዩዕዴ። ሃይንሳ ጩዕማዕ ዳዊቴ ካታማጋ ኣሻይ ዉቲሮ ዩሉቶቴይይ። ኤሲ ላዕሳ ማዕቂስ ፓዕሉቲቴስ ኣሻቴ ክረስቶዕሴ።» (Zayse language)

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.” Luke 2:10-11

This good news will soon bring great joy to the speakers of the Dirasha and Zayse languages. Their New Testaments will soon be dedicated. Thank you for helping to make this happen!

TSAMAKKO FINISHING

Yay! The Tsamakko translation team reached an important milestone in September. We finished the consultant check on Romans, the last remaining book to do in their New Testament translation. They had worked hard to get this last book done before we moved back to the US, and it was great to have reached this point at last. For the past 7 years, Jim worked with them on all of their New Testament books except for the gospel of Luke. Thank you for being a part of this through your gifts and prayers.

The team still has a lot of work to do before the New Testament is published. They must do many checks on the punctuation, spelling, formatting, and the consistency of terms they have translated. Pray for them as they work to do this.



Jim checking Romans with the Tsamakko team

FAREWELLS

We were honored by several going away events in September before we left Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) held a small farewell dinner. President Yonas Yigezu Dibisa, the President of EECMY, expressed his thanks for our service to the church, and his hope that we will continue to be involved with the church’s translation effort.

SIL Ethiopia also held a farewell gathering. SIL is an organization that we first served under when we came to Ethiopia, and we have continued to work together with them. Gallo Aylate, the translation coordinator of SIL, expressed his deep thank for the many translation projects that Jim had consulted with, and for the consultants that Jim had helped to mentor.



Prayers at the SIL farewell - Gallo Aylate and Rob Bustin with Jim and Susan



Jim and Susan with Dr. Lalissa D. Gemechis, the Director of the Department for Mission and Theology of the EECMY

RAISING 2,000,000 PRAYERS FOR GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday has become the day ALL nonprofits do a fundraising push. This year, we at Lutheran Bible Translators want to raise more than just money by raising something different: prayer.

3,750 language communities do not have access to Scripture, many of which have yet to start translation.* That's alarming! It's time to change that. Lutheran Bible Translators is currently partnered in over 130 language communities (up from 72 in 2019), actively working with local leaders to translate God's Word.

With your support, the capacity to take on more projects can expand faster.

On Giving Tuesday, will you commit to raising prayer?

Add your voice as an official prayer partner

1. Sign up as a Prayer Partner online: lbt.org/pray
2. Receive the prayer calendar monthly
3. Pray daily with the global community

Raising our prayer partner community to 5,480 members* means Bible translation will be prayed for over 2,000,000 times every year by faithful people just like you.



Prayer makes a difference for translation teams as they work to make God's Word available in their languages.

ODDS 'N ENDS

Life has been busy for us since **moving to the US** at the end of September. We have bought a car, bought a condo, moved in, and are in the process of settling. We have a range of reactions as we open boxes that we packed nine years ago. "Wow! I didn't remember we had that!" "Why in the world did we keep that?"

In October, Jim attended the **Bible Translation 2023 conference** in Duncanville, Texas. Hundreds of translators from around the world gathered to share ideas on how to do a better job of translating the Bible. It was encouraging and thought-provoking.

In January, Jim will be travelling to **Sierra Leone** to meet partners with the Bible Society of Sierra Leone. Together, they will explore the possibility of Jim beginning to work with the Mende translation team. They are working to complete their translation of the Old Testament. If this partnership is approved by all, Jim will work with Mende along with translation teams from Ethiopia. Please pray for God's leading and guidance.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for the Tsamakko translation team as they do the many tedious checks that must be done before their translation can be published.
- Pray for Jim and Susan as we attend a debriefing retreat for global workers in January.
- Pray for Jim's trip to Sierra Leone with other consultants at the end of January.
- Pray for Jim and Susan as we continue to adjust to working with Bible translation from our new location.

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