

Serena Derricks

Literacy and Education Specialist



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Step by Step

When I first began praying about this new position with Lutheran Bible Translators, I knew there would be many steps along the way to get things going. Most of these steps are familiar to me because I've done them before, but that didn't necessary mean they were easy.

When I received the call documents, I took days to pray and truly consider what the Lord was asking of me during this season. It felt exciting to accept this call and prepare for the installation. During the installation, I felt the weight and importance of this role in my heart.

It is my hope that this work will help language groups be able to read more fluently in their mother tongue, so that they can get a deep understanding of Scripture.

Pastor Zoeller oversaw my installation at my home congregation: Concordia Lutheran Church in Forsyth,

Montana

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:19

In January, I boarded a plane to fly to Lutheran Bible Translators' headquarters in Concordia, Missouri. My visit was filled with many wonderful moments. It had been six years since I visited the office. Although virtual meetings are fine, there is a certain feeling that comes with being together in-person.

Over the course of a few days, I was able to meet with each department to talk about what my new role as a Literacy and Education Specialist.



I had a great meeting with Rich Rudowske, Executive Director of Lutheran Bible Translators

Frequently Asked Questions

Will you still be teaching?

Yes! I really enjoy my job at the school. This position with Lutheran Bible Translators will be part-time during the school year and more time during the summer months. School gets out on May 22nd, so I've got a wonderfully long summer break!

When do you have time for this?

Short answer: whenever I can! Sometimes I work in the morning before the kids are awake, sometimes during my lunch hour, but mostly in the afternoons and evenings.

Will you be traveling?

At this time, I've asked Lutheran Bible Translators to allow me to work remotely and not travel. That may change in the future, but for now I am working from home and utilizing technology to do my work.

How do the kids feel about it?

The kids are excited for me. They have seen, in real life, the impact Scripture has on people and they want more and more language groups to be able to access God's Word.

English Language Learning (ELL)

This month, I began meeting with Pastor Lema in Tanzania and tutoring him in English. Pastor Lema is a church leader who is partnering with LBT to help coordinate the translation work in Tanzania. We meet virtually twice a week and I assign homework for the days we don't meet. Everyone loves homework, right? With improved language skills, he will be better able to communicate with Lutheran Bible Translators and access more training information for translation, literacy, and Scripture engagement. Please be praying for our time together each week and that the internet will work smoothly!



I wake up bright and early to teach English!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise the Lord for a smooth installation and office visit to Concordia, MO.
- Pray that my time tutoring national partners in English would equip and encourage them.
- Praise the Lord for His provision in my life, especially providing an energy and passion for this work!
- Pray for continued health as I approach the end of my school year and can do more work for Lutheran Bible Translators during the summer months.

CONTACT

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