



they will See and Understand

ISAIAH 52:15; ROMANS 15:21

SPRING 2024

Thank you for your prayers and your ongoing support of my ministry with Lutheran Bible Translators! Work has been increasing as I provide training and support for the Kerewe Bible Translation Program in Tanzania. I traveled last month for 18 days for a training workshop, and it was a very fruitful time. I enjoy teaching, and the team is a joy. I have been appointed as a Consultant-in-Training with Lutheran Bible Translators, which means I will be mentored by Translation Consultant Rev. Chuck Tessaro in Nigeria and will begin a doctoral program for a DMin in Bible Translation from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

WHO WE ARE



The Wagner Family first served with Lutheran Bible Translators in Sierra Leone alongside the Themne people in Translation & Scripture

Use. Now Ruthie is a Consultant-in-Training and serves as trainer for the Kerewe Bible Translation Program in Tanzania.

Making God's Word accessible to those who do not yet have it in the language of their hearts. (LBT's Mission)

TIMELINE

- APR Ruthie teaches at a 2-week workshop in Tanzania; Ruthie becomes a consultant-in-training with LBT
- JUNE Elijah's 12th on the 21st
- JULY Isaiah's 10th on the 9th; LBT Gathering & 60th Anniversary July 10-16th in Roach, Missouri
- AUG-SEPT Ruthie's 38th on Aug 6th; trip to Tanzania?
- OCT Lizzie's 7th on the 9th
- FALL Ruthie begins DMin at Gordon-Conwell

TAKE ACTION

JOIN our "Wagner Updates" group on Facebook!

This is where we update most frequently.

facebook.com/groups/wagnerupdates

GIVE to "Wagner Ministry" online or by mailing a check. Please contact us or LBT if you'd like to set up automatic giving.

PRAISE for a great trip to Tanzania for Ruthie and for the completion of the training workshop.

PRAY for the Kerewe Translation Team as they work on the Pentateuch.

CONTACT/SUPPORT

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📘 facebook.com/groups/wagnerupdates

📞 612-433-1199 (call or text)

🏠 LBT will forward "Wagner" mail to us.



Designate "Wagner Ministry"

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Kerewe Translation Team, Tanzania

TRANSLATION TRAINING WORKSHOP

Kerewe is a language spoken on Ukerewe Island on Lake Victoria on the northwestern border of Tanzania. There are around 400,000 speakers of the language.

This workshop with the Kerewe translation team in Mwanza was a testament to their unwavering dedication and enthusiasm for learning. The participants, including the exegete/coordinator, the three translators, and the back-translator, along with the exegete/coordinator for the Taturu program, showed remarkable commitment. We had a wonderful time learning together and spending downtime getting to know one another better. It was an 11-day event, not including Sundays. This workshop was the most extended training they have had.

We covered many topics, including Intertextuality, Footnotes, Paratext Review, Semantic Analysis, Biblical Terms, Glossary Development, Advanced Paratext Tools, Research Techniques for Unknown Concepts, and Comparative Discourse Analysis. Each subject was thoroughly discussed and practiced, ensuring a comprehensive understanding and applying the principles.

The team members' energy and enthusiasm were not only evident but also highly productive. They managed to stay ahead of schedule, a significant achievement that allowed for additional learning opportunities. This progress enabled me to spend an entire day introducing Comparative Discourse Analysis.

A significant benefit of being ahead of schedule was that we could spend as much time as they needed and wanted for discussion, questions, and practice of the taught principles. We

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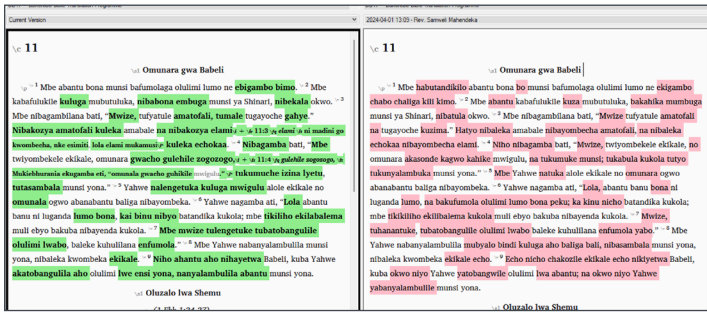
RECURRING SUPPORT

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

100%



had a lot of hands-on training in both software programs—Logos (for exegesis) and Paratext (for translation). For instance, each translator drafted a passage they had previously worked on and revised it through the workshop. On the last day, they compared their workshop drafts with those before, as you can see in the above picture. This exercise demonstrated their improved understanding and application of the principles we discussed. It was convincing for us all that their hard work had paid off!

The workshop's success was a testament to the collective effort of each participant, who contributed their best. I'm immensely proud of the team's achievements and grateful to God for their health and safety.

WHAT'S NEXT?

I am developing Exegesis training that I will do remotely with colleagues in Tanzania. I am also working with a consultant to experiment with applying the Agile/Scrum framework to the programs in Tanzania. The goal is to increase effectiveness through improved communication and collaboration within the team and stakeholders. Please pray for wisdom and creativity with this.

ON THE HOME FRONT

Josh started working as the Business Manager for the LCMS MN South District in September. He's enjoying his role and

the community there. He and Trinity Lutheran Church are a tremendous support during my trips as he cares for the kids.

Elijah is finishing sixth grade at Northfield Middle School. He has been able to stay on the A Honor Roll even with all his extracurriculars. He's in his second year of confirmation and is in three choirs. He's been selected for numerous solos! He plays percussion in band, did track this year, and is in traveling soccer for the summer.



Isaiah 'Zay' is finishing fourth grade. He's earned the nickname "I-slay-a" for his math skills and has made many friends this year. He's in two choirs and takes organ lessons. He played winter soccer and is in traveling soccer this summer.

Josiah 'JoJo' is finishing second grade. He was happy for an early approval of braces to fix his severe underbite crossbite. He loves to read thick chapter books like his brothers and is a Star Wars fan. He's in choir, played winter soccer, and is in baseball this summer.

Elizabeth 'Lizzie' is finishing Kindergarten. She learned to read this year. She played winter soccer and is eager to start dance lessons. She is very girly with her love for dresses, earrings, play makeup, and long blonde hair. She is a committed artist, a budding writer, and has been working on learning cursive.

Thank you for praying for our family and the ministry in which we're involved.

♥ Ruthie & Josh Wagner

Elijah (11.5), Isaiah (9.5), Josiah (8), & Elizabeth (6.5)

PRAY FOR THE KEREWÉ TRANSLATION TEAM, THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN TANZANIA, AND THE KEREWÉ PEOPLE



Rev. Oscar Lema, Assistant Bishop for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania—East Lake Victoria Diocese, and Program Manager



Rev. Domisian Alloys, Pastor for the Lutheran Church in Tanzania, Exegete and Program Coordinator



Rev. Laurent Malelo, Pastor for the Africa Inland Church, and Translator



Evangelist Sospeter Makene, Evangelist and lay preacher for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, and Translator



Rev. Samuel Mahendeka, Pastor for the Baptist Convention in Tanzania, and Translator



Mr. Protaz Mageasa, Back-translator