

Living Letters

2 Corinthians 3

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 2
JULY 2024

Dear Family and Friends,

¹⁹ Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, “Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me’?” ²⁰ I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. ²¹ A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. ²² So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. (NIV 1984, John 16:19-22).

This is a passage that has come to our minds during the past several months. We have been experiencing bumps in the road: the waiting, the unknowns, the worry, the spiritual warfare, the pains and struggles of both preparing for the transition of baby outside of mama’s womb and with the translation project heading towards completion. This is no surprise to our heavenly Father. These struggles, pains, and griefs that we are experiencing point us to Jesus. He tells us that we will experience these pains and griefs while in this world. But just as this baby will come and as the translation project will come to an end, so is Jesus coming back! We thank God for how his Word points us to Jesus and the Truth!

We have made our way to the capital city as we approach the birth of our baby. Your continued prayers are appreciated for the health of each member of the family, for the transition of baby outside of the womb, for our family as we transition to the change of life after birth, for healing, for God’s provision each step of the way, and for our family as we continue to seek what is next for our family after the Komba Bible is complete.

The transcript of the Bible has been sent to the printers. There are several steps that will still need to take place before printing begins. Michael continues to follow along in this process with the translation team while also working on his thesis. Your continued prayers are appreciated! Please pray for good communication with the printers, for the translation team, for God’s provision for each step of this process



(Top) We met with the Computer Assistant Project Officer from the Bible Society of Ghana in March to finish running checks and get the text ready to send to the printers. (Above) We were also greeted by a translation consultant while at the Bible Society. (Below) The last day in the office for our team.





We really enjoyed getting to attend Easter convention this year for the Komba Lutheran churches around Gbintiri. Everyone dresses beautifully, and we gather for a couple of days at a nearby community. There is plenty of Scripture read, songs sung, offerings collected, and dancing galore! May God be with the church and encourage its members as they gather together.

and his removal of barriers, for all the various relationships involved in this process, for Michael as he works on his thesis, for the Komba people as it has been a hard start to farming season, and for favorable weather for farming.

As we approach the completion of the Komba Bible translation, we do want to share the opportunity to contribute financially towards the printing of the Bibles. You can go to this link <https://lbt.org/program/komba-old-testament-translation/> or you can send a check to Lutheran Bible Translators and put Komba Project on the memo line to make a gift. This is separate from supporting our ministry. It will help us buy quality Bibles for Komba brothers and sisters.

We want to thank you for all of your prayers. In April, we all got sick. Transitioning from home to the capital city wasn't easy, but we were never alone. God has provided so much! We truly believe that God hears our prayers, and having all of you praying for us has been such a blessing to our family. We thank God for how He encourages, provides for, and loves us through each of you!

Together we continue to pray for Jesus' return. Come Lord Jesus! May God continue to be with us and heal our broken hearts as together we wait for His return.

God's Peace be with you!

Confident in Christ,
Michael and Naomi Ersland

Contributions:
Lutheran Bible Translators
PO Box 789
Concordia, MO 64020

Checks written to Lutheran Bible Translators with *Ersland Ministry* on the memo line. You can also give online at LBT.org

Michael-Naomi.Ersland@lbt.org

Prayer Requests

- Pray for all to go well with the typesetters so we can get the manuscript back and proof-read one last time before printing.
- Pray for the Komba Lutheran church. There have been deaths in the community, disagreements, and also the pain and suffering keenly felt due to a lack of food and seed because of last year's flooding. May God give protection, peace, and life.
- Pray for our family as we adjust to having a new baby
- How may we pray for you? Please let us know so that we may be praying for you!



Lutheran Bible Translators

