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Tessaro Newsletter

August 2024



Lutheran Bible
Translators

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- **Etulo New Testament:** Pray for the Etulo-speaking people as they grow familiar with God's word in their language.
- **Yala and Mwaghavul Old Testaments:** Pray for the Yala and Mwaghavul translation teams as they come closer to completing a major step in the production of the entire Bible in their languages.
- **Karen and John David:** Thanksgiving for opportunities to teach and learn and be involved in Bible studies and other activities.
- **Karen Rose and her family:** Thanksgiving for Karen Rose and her growing family.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! We hope you are having a good summer. In Nigeria we are in the middle of the rainy season. The rains bring cooler weather, which is appreciated.

ETULO NEW TESTAMENT

Over the years we have had varying degrees of contact with translation teams in a number of languages. About 10 years ago the translation team from the Etulo-speaking area was attending a three-week workshop at the Nigeria Bible Translation Trust, and Chuck worked with them. Typically Chuck asks translation teams to read through a paragraph and then reviews the contents of the paragraph, verse by verse. He often asks questions simply to see that the material is understood well and translated and written in a reasonable way, and then the team moves on to the next verse.

Chuck had an interesting experience with the Etulo group. One day while going through Luke with the Etulo team, they got to a verse that looked good to Chuck, and so he said, "That verse is okay." One member of the Etulo team quickly responded, "What do you mean? How can that verse be okay? That verse is not okay."

The teams work hard and are always ready to defend their work. However, this team member was doing the opposite! The issue was in Luke 22:56-57. A number of versions state in verse 56 that a servant girl saw Peter. Then in verse 57, Peter addresses her as "Woman." The Etulo translation followed those versions closely. The member of the Etulo team objected, wondering how a person could be both a girl and a woman at the same time. In a number of languages and cultures in Nigeria, people pass through two stages before becoming a woman or a man. First a person is a younger girl or boy, then an older girl or boy, and then a woman or a man. Many languages have specific terms for each of the stages but there is not an English equivalent that I can think of. After some discussion, the Etulo team was okay with it and we moved on.

A few weeks ago the Etulo group dedicated their completed New Testament. Let's pray that people will be drawn closer to God through his word.

YALA CHECKING

The Yala translation team has been making steady progress. Chuck and the Yala translation team have looked at each verse in 96% of the Old Testament. What is left is about 36 chapters in Ezekiel. We hope to meet again in a couple of months.



The Yala team looking at Ecclesiastes and the beginning of Ezekiel in June

PRODUCTIVE CLASSES

As usual, John David has been busy in school. In addition to learning some algebra, geometry, history, and some other subjects, his class is required to learn some home economics. A few weeks ago he came home with a bottle containing some dish soap his class had made. The next week he was looking around the house for some beeswax and other ingredients so that he could make vaseline. The week after that his class made air freshener.



Correspondence

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KAREN ROSE

At the end of June we bumped into Karen Rose and her husband. Karen Rose was ready to give birth any day. We are happy to share that since then Karen Rose gave birth to a healthy baby girl!



Contributions

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KAREN & JOHN DAVID

In the midst of keeping the house running and participating in various Bible studies, Karen also enjoys tending to the beautiful flowers we have.



God's blessings,

Chuck + Karen Tessaro
Email

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Please do not send any contributions to Nigeria