



2024 in Review

This year has been incredibly busy, filled with growth and exciting milestones! We started the year with bringing three consultants to help speed up the translation projects in Sierra Leone, with another consultant who joined us in October. We used to have one consultant doing the all of the final quality checks, but now we have five consultants supporting the four ongoing translation projects. This increase in support meant that the Themne translation team and especially the Mende translation team were particularly busy balancing consultant checks with their daily work including team checking, drafting, and preparation for the consultant checks.



Mende Translation Team with Consultant Jim Kaiser

Alongside the translation work, I completed my consultant-in-training workshops online and in person, in Kenya (for the Africa area CITs), and in Italy (for all regions). It was great!

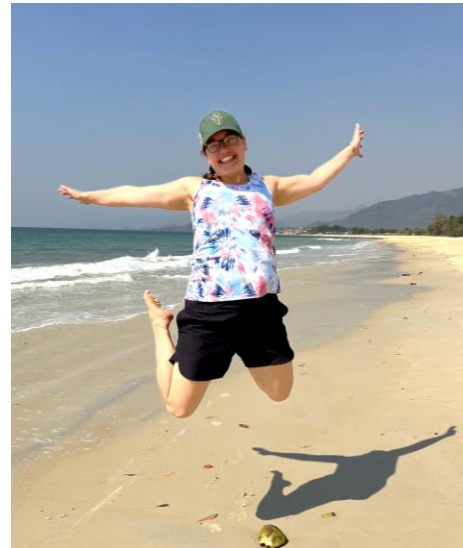


The Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore (Florence)

I had the chance to meet with past participants and new ones, learning from both the facilitators and participants.

I also travelled to the U.S in summer to spend time with family and attend the LBT Gathering, where I enjoyed reconnecting with Lutheran Bible Translators staff and missionaries with their families. Overall, I learned about the direction of the organization, spent quality time with people I don't get to see very often, and had some fun in the sun. And...

I graduated!



I'm thrilled to share that I passed my last class to complete and graduate with my Master of Arts in New Testament from the Talbot School of Theology at Biola University. The journey was filled with learning, but it also reminded me how much there is to explore in theology, New Testament exegesis, and Greek of the New Testament period. I am currently a consultant-in-training alongside my role as a translation/technical advisor, and a doctoral program is required to become a consultant, but for now my educational journey is on pause to focus as the translation work in Sierra Leone continues to speed up.

Coming up next...

I am excited to introduce to you the recently retired General Secretary of the Bible Society of Sierra Leone, Mrs. Christiana Jones. There will be an accompanying video interview. I work with a lot of people who are working hard in Bible Translation who also have their own story interwoven with this work. I look forward to you being able to get to know this incredible woman.

Mende Bible Translation Project (with Deuterocanonical Books) Progress

Portion	Drafting	Team Checking	External Review	Consultant Checked
Old Testament	39/39	39/39	39/39	19/39
Deuterocanonical Books	12/12	12/12	12/12	0/12
New Testament	27/27	4/27	3/27	0/27

Themne Bible Translation Project Progress

Portion	Drafting	Team Checking	External Review	Consultant Checked
Old Testament	39/39	39/39	32/39	11/39
New Testament	11/27	0/27	0/27	0/27

Note: The Deuterocanon (which means 'second canon') includes the books accepted into the Roman Catholic Church inspired canon. While Lutherans and other protestants do not hold them as inspired, they are considered beneficial like reading other theological or religious publications, and they give us a view into the context between the Old and New Testament. The wisdom books are quite beautiful, and the stories are very interesting. Have you read any? What is your favorite?

Prayer Requests

- Praise God for the additional consultants who are helping to move the Mende and Themne translations forward.
- Praise God that I was able to complete my Masters degree!
- Pray that I can use all that I'm learning as a consultant-in-training.
- Give thanks that I was able to spend a short time in the US to connect with family and members of LBT. Pray that I can continue to find ways to have personal time while keeping up with all the work in Sierra Leone.
- And I continue to be thankful for your faithful prayers and support!



Recorded Presentation:

amyformella.wixsite.com/amyonthefield/videos



Zoom Presentation Form:

forms.gle/sSPhvC2ahCsW6ugk6

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