



# Carl and Kelsey GRULKE

MaryJane, Audrey, Judah, Gideon & Isaac

*We all hear these people speaking in our own languages  
about the wonderful things God has done! - Acts 2:11*



## February 2025 Update

*Ngwaga o mosha!* Happy new year! We are excited to be one month into 2025 already and look forward to big things happening in Bible translation this year. New opportunities, large milestones and big decisions are coming up for us and we want to share them all with you.

### A NEW ROLE FOR CARL

Starting in March, Carl will take on the role of Regional Director for Southern Africa and Ethiopia with LBT. While still based in Botswana, Carl will shift from direct involvement with translation teams, allowing him to focus on regional administration as the teams become more independent. This is a positive development for both the teams and Carl, who will apply his administrative skills across Southern Africa.

Carl will also oversee Ethiopia, requiring more travel to build relationships with partners, including the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, the world's largest Lutheran church with over 12 million members. Ethiopia offers significant translation opportunities, and we look forward to how this partnership will grow as Carl deepens his involvement.

**Pray for Carl as he steps into his new role, which will involve lots of learning and pray for our whole family as we adjust to his new schedule and more travel.**



*Men celebrating the launch of the Konso Bible last year in Ethiopia, a project sponsored by LBT.*

### LIFE IN BOTSWANA - ALWAYS AN ADVENTURE!



The rainy season in Botswana runs from November to February. While it's relatively mild in a desert climate, it rains a little each day, which is crucial for crops and water needs. However, this season often brings small breakdowns around the house.

January has been spent fixing various things, and we also got a vehicle stuck in deep mud after nearly 3 inches of rain one morning! Thankfully, our strong network of friends helped us out, but several translators and friends are also facing challenges with heavy rains, flooding, and water-related damage.

**Pray for people here in Botswana as the rainy season has its blessings and challenges, that God would continue to provide for all our needs.**

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# TRANSLATION PROGRAM UPDATES



## DISTRIBUTION IS KEY SHEK GALAGARI

The team is developing a plan for effectively distributing the New Testament to the areas where the language is spoken. They plan to pilot a distribution program in nearby Sehithwa to make supplying these Bibles easier.

**Pray for the Bakgalagari people as efforts continue to get their new Bible into their hands.**



## LOTS OF CHECKING WAYEYI

We are progressing in our checking, now working in Romans. The translators have understood more and more of the Scripture as we translate it into Shiyeyi. They want to create a commentary to help the Wayeyi people understand this book better!

**Pray for Motswasele and Nicolus as they continue their work.**



## WAITING ON BIBLES KHWEDAM

The Khwedam project has completed its panoramic Bible after the long process of typesetting and proofreading. Their new Bibles are now on a ship heading for Botswana and we are planning a launch for later this year!

**Pray for the Khwe people as they prepare for a dedication and launch!**

In 2024, we fell short of our fundraising goal, but with smart ministry spending, we stayed out of the red. We humbly ask for your continued support. Your generosity makes a real difference here in Botswana, and together we can keep moving our mission forward. If you're able, please consider increasing your giving or sharing our cause with others who might be interested in joining this effort. Every donation, no matter the size, helps us continue this vital work. Thank you for your partnership and support!

## EDUCATION FOR OUR CHILDREN



Raising children in a foreign country presents challenges, especially with education. We're blessed with a great school in Maun that has supported our kids, but options after 7th grade are limited. MaryJane is currently in her sophomore year at Denver South, while Audrey recently visited a boarding school in the U.S. to consider it for high school. The boys are thriving here with Judah in 7th grade and the twins in 4th. We face important decisions about their education, which aren't easy, but we trust that God will guide us in making the best choices for our family.

**Pray for us as we consider school options and pray for our kids on their educational journey.**

### PRAY

We need you praying for our family, the projects, the translators and more.

### GIVE

We need the financial support of partners to make this ministry possible. Give online at [lbt.org/grulke](https://lbt.org/grulke) or mail a check to LBT. Regular gifts make a big difference!

### TELL

We need people to raise awareness for our ministry. Share the mission of Bible translation with your church or friends!

## WHAT'S COMING NEXT?

**Mar 1** - Carl starts new role as Regional Director

**Mar 3-15** - Carl travels to Ethiopia to meet partners

**Mar 3-7** - Wayeyi consultant checking in Maun

**Mar 26** - Happy birthday MaryJane!

**Apr 7-11** - Carl at training workshop in Ethiopia

This will be a big trip for Carl as he meets partners in his new role as Regional Director. Pray that it blesses everyone.

**PLEDGED MONTHLY SUPPORT**

**63%**

This tracker shows the amount that is pledged to our ministry on a monthly basis. It doesn't show every gift, but it helps us plan for the future.