

## Exciting News! Khwedam Bibles Arrive

A pivotal moment for the Khwe language community is here - the Khwedam 'panoramic' Bible has been printed and has arrived in Botswana. Plans are underway to celebrate this milestone later in 2025.

Thank God for Tim Beckendorf, the Khwedam Translation Team, the advisory committee, and all partners for their dedication and work in producing the first Bible for the Khwe people.

**Praise God that the Khwe will soon have access to God's Word in their heart language!**



*Delivery in Botswana*



*Khwedam 'panoramic' Bible*

## Program Update: Kerewe (Tanzania)



*"Five fingers, each doing its work"*

The Kerewe translation team recently took on a fun puzzle competition, racing to complete the fastest. One goal was to reinforce the value of teamwork. When every person does their part, the whole picture quickly comes together. TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves More.

**Each one of you is part of the team, serving with your prayers and financial gifts.** We are deeply grateful for your partnership so that the Kerewe will have God's Word of hope, life, and transformation.

### Translation Progress

The translation team is diligently working on the Pentateuch.

- **Leviticus** is finished and being printed for distribution!
- **Exodus** is almost finished (29 chapters drafted).
- **Genesis** is drafted, and soon we will be doing the final checks and printing.
- Next goal: Have **Genesis** and **Exodus** ready for final checking and printing by June.
- Next steps: To begin working on **Numbers** and **Deuteronomy**.



*"We need Scripture in their language so hearts can truly be transformed,"* shared Bishop Oscar Lema the newly elected leader of the Evangelical Church of Tanzania.

**Scripture Engagement is the goal.** With joy, the book of Jude was recently distributed in a Kerewe church.



## A Word from Sarah Esala, Regional Director

**Fruit that bears fruit that bears fruit...** That's what comes to mind when I think of the work unfolding in Tanzania. I marvel at how God called Michael back to help the Lutheran Church with Bible translation. In some ways, it's the fruit of that initial work. At one time, it was Michael visiting homes evangelizing, and now that's being done by other Tanzanian Christians. However, as they have done this, they've discovered people, like the Kerewe, Kara, Sumbwa, and Taturu, who don't understand Swahili very well, and this is a barrier to evangelization and discipleship. The Megahans have championed Bible translation among these groups for the past decade to cross this obstacle.

Michael has mentored, trained, and consulted in Bible translation, particularly with the Kerewe, but he sees this as only the first step. **The goal is that the Kerewe team and others who are trained will be able to pass along what they learn. They will become the mentors, trainers, and consultants--fruit bearing fruit. That is becoming a reality!** I am excited that all 4 projects are off the ground now, but I am even more thrilled that the Kerewe team is equipped to help new projects. They are bearing the fruit of Michael's labor, not just through the growing excitement for Kerewe Scripture, but by their ability to equip people in new programs, particularly the Kara, who are a short distance away from Ukerewe Island. **Thank you for your support of the Meghan Ministry.**



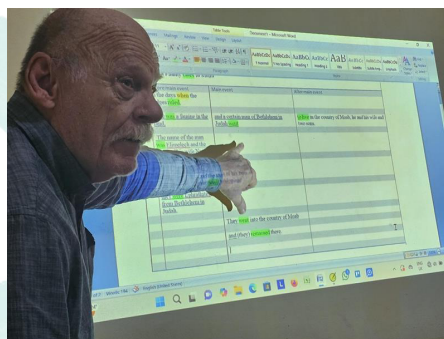
See some of the great things happening:  
[LBT.org/celebrating-partnership-in-tanzania](http://LBT.org/celebrating-partnership-in-tanzania)

(Fun Fact: Bishop Lema in the video was taught English by Jo Ann in preparation for going to seminary.)

## Ongoing Mentorship & Training



Kerewe and Kara are spoken on remote islands of Tanzania where the longing for God's Word is strong. Above Ruthie Wagner and I are taking a ferry to respond to these communities' requests for the Bible and walk translation teams through the next steps.



Part of the training was teaching the translation team discourse analysis, which will help them translate Scripture so it sounds more natural and is clear.



*Newly finished guesthouse to prepare people for Bible translation ministry. In addition to being a place to stay for visitors, it allows for larger groups to meet together which supports the vision of training the trainers.*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for God's guidance as the Khwe community prepares for the dedication and launch of the Khwedam Bible.
- Pray the Kerewe translation team keeps making strong progress on the Pentateuch and that their collaboration and teamwork will grow even stronger.
- Pray for my Tanzania trip in June to prepare translators for a discourse analysis workshop.
- Thank God with me for my prayer and financial supporters who are a vital partner in this ministry.

## Available to speak

*Would you or someone you know like to hear how Lutheran Bible Translators is working with communities still waiting for God's Word in their heart language?*

Get in touch with us using the information below.

## CONTACT

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