

Green - White - Green

#113

Tessaro Newsletter

July-August 2025



Lutheran Bible
Translators

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Thank God with us for faithful partners.
- Pray for good insight as the Gokana, Kukele, and Yala teams continue to make progress.
- Pray for consultants-in-training, as they learn new skills and further develop their competencies.
- Pray for students and staff in the Linguistics and Bible Translation Department in the Theological College of Northern Nigeria. A new school year begins in August, with an anticipated record number of students.
- Give thanks for John David and Rina Rose, as they both keep growing and maturing.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Rainy season greetings! As always, we greatly appreciate your prayers, encouragement, and support.

Recently one of our partners asked us what we have been doing in the past year. As we reflected (and looked at diaries), we began to realize that our lives are pretty routine. What we have done this past year is similar to what we have done these past few months and actually the past fifteen years as well: working with translation teams and working on training.

TRANSLATION TEAMS

As usual, we have been working with the Gokana, Kukele, and Yala language teams, meeting together when we can and keeping in touch via internet and telephone between meetings. With the Gokana team we have been going through Leviticus—there sure are a lot of sacrifices! With the Kukele team we have been going through Numbers—there are many numbers! Larger numbers can be complicated when the largest number in a language is 400. Once we get past 400 times 400, we have to get creative about how we translate those numbers.



*Working with the Kukele team along with consultant-in training,
Rev. Kierien Ayugha*

We have been intensively working with the Yala team following the completion of the verse by verse consultant check of the entire Old Testament. At this point Chuck and the team are going through the text of the Old Testament looking for things to tidy up, such as consistency in spelling in general and the spelling of names, consistency in measurements of weight, volume, and distance, looking at places where footnotes and illustrations would be helpful, and seeing that certain Biblical terms have been handled in a consistent way.

TRAINING

We typically focus on training in a few different ways. When working with translation teams, we like to put our team members in situations so that they can progress in various areas. Some of these areas are understanding the Biblical text, how to translate that text, how to use the software for translation in better ways, and how to understand the structure and spelling system of their language better, to name a few.

We also mentor several consultants-in-training, with the goal of them becoming translation consultants. This aspect of training typically involves sharing ideas and reading assignments and working together with translation teams. LBT's own Ruthie Wagner joined us for a couple of weeks.

Chuck is also involved in some formal training, teaching part-time in the Linguistics and Bible Translation Department in the Theological College of Northern Nigeria. We hope to say more about that next time!



Working with the Gokana team along with consultant-in-training Ruthie Wagner



ON THE HOME FRONT

Running the household takes a little longer here. It involves juggling the availability of electricity and water, cooking most things from scratch, filtering and boiling water (and allowing it to cool 😊), and trying to see that everyone is home before dark, which is around 6:30 pm all year round (we are about 9 degrees north of the equator). We are looking forward to John David's 13th birthday at the end of July. Karen Rose's daughter Rina Rose celebrated her first birthday at the beginning of July. And our grandson Aidan graduated from high school. Aidan did well academically, was in the band, and plays baseball much better than his paternal grandfather ever did. We are very proud of all of them.



Rina is one!

THANKS!

We greatly appreciate your partnership. May God continue to bless you!



Karen, John David & some roses



*Congratulations to Aidan
God's blessings,*

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*Please do not send any
contributions to Nigeria*

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