



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*



December 2025 Update



This year has been one with lots of changes and transitions, milestones and adventures. Let's look back!

MAJOR CHECKING MILESTONE

WAYEYI BIBLE TRANSLATION PROJECT

The Wayeyi team has now completed all of its team and community checks for the whole New Testament. We are working to schedule time with the consultant to approve our New Testament for printing, hopefully next year!

Pray for our work on the details over the next few months and for free time in the consultant's schedule.



BIBLE TRANSLATION COOPERATION BOTSWANA

We hosted a meeting of 5 different Bible translation organizations in Maun to talk about and strategize how we can start new Bible translation programs next year to reach more language communities in Botswana. Exciting things to come!

Pray for communities as they wait to have God's Word in their language and for organizations as we partner together.

PEACE PROBLEMS IN SOUTH ETHIOPIA

ZAYSE BIBLE TRANSLATION PROJECT

The Zayse area has been experiencing a lot of violence and conflict over the last few months. Churches have been closed, government services have been stopped and movement has been very difficult. This the team (from L): Kegnalem, Mesele, Tadele and Tsigaye.

Pray for peace in the Zayse area and an end to conflict.



MINORITY LANGUAGE VICTORY

BOTSWANA

The government in Botswana has begun doing news broadcasts in 4 minority languages, all four of which have a Bible translation project. This is a big win for minority language use in Botswana and a testament to the impact of Bible translation!

Pray for minority language communities to keep being lifted up.

CONTACT: carl-kelsey.grulke@lbt.org
PO Box HA 137 HAK, Maun, Botswana

CONNECT:  The Grulkes' LBT Adventures
GIVING: <https://lbt.org/grulke>



ENGAGING WITH SCRIPTURE

SHEKGALAGARI BIBLE TRANSLATION PROJECT

We held a songwriting workshop in Maun for speakers of Shekgalagari. The group of 25 participants created 10 songs over the week and were able to record them all for distribution.

Pray for Bakgalagari people to continue to engage with their new Bible translation in meaningful ways in their worship communities.



BIBLE TRANSLATION CONFERENCE THAILAND

Carl attended an international conference in October in Thailand. It focused on Ethics in Bible Translation and was full of thoughtful papers and presentations about current issues in this area. He traveled with 2 Ethiopian colleagues to help them learn more too.

Pray for connections and learning coming from this conference.

A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

GIFTS AND GIVING

I love our traditions of giving and receiving gifts around Christmas. I know it can get overly materialistic, but at its heart, gift giving can be a great way to honor the best gift ever to enter the world, Jesus. I've been studying the Gospel of Luke lately, and I am constantly surprised by the gifts that Jesus accepts from people. God's incarnation is not just a gift he is giving; it's a series of gifts he's receiving too. God humbles himself enough to be born as a human baby. God comes into the world through Mary, accepting her hospitality as she carries God in her own body. God is gracious enough to allow a human family to love and feed him. Eventually, Jesus accepts meals and lodging and support for his ministry from women, from disciples, from pharisees, and from tax collectors. Jesus accepts what people are willing to offer him. Jesus teaches and preaches and blesses and saves those who welcome him. They didn't give (and neither do we) because they had to—God's grace is sufficient without any action on our part—they gave out of gratitude and love. In this beautiful season of giving, while we thank God for God's amazing gifts in our lives, let us remember in wonder that God also accepts gifts from us. How humbling to know that God graciously accepts, and even treasures, whatever small gifts I can give to him.



As 2025 draws to a close, we want you to know that your gifts make this ministry possible in Botswana. **100% of the gifts that you give go toward Bible translation.** We are so thankful for all of your support!



PRAY

We need your prayers for our family, programs, projects, the translators and more.

GIVE

We need your financial support for this ministry. Give online at **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?

- Dec 5** - End of the school year at Matshwane
- Dec 12** - Happy birthday Judah!
- Dec 19** - MaryJane and Audrey arrive home in Botswana
- Dec 25** - Merry Christmas!
- Jan 1** - Ngwaga o mosha! (Happy new year!)
- Jan 2** - Girls arrive back in US
- Jan 6** - Happy anniversary Carl and Kelsey!
- Jan 14** - Start of new school year at Matshwane
- Jan 18-25** - Regional Directors meetings in Botswana
- Jan TBD** - Dedication and launch of Khwedam Bible

The Khwedam panoramic Bible is due to be dedicated in January. The president of Botswana is invited to attend and we are working with his schedule to make that happen. This would be a huge honor for the Khwe people, so pray for us as they plan and prepare.

PLEDGED MONTHLY SUPPORT

79%

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.