

Green - White - Green

#117

Tessaro Newsletter

August 2026



Lutheran Bible
Translators

PRAYER REQUESTS

- We give thanks to God for faithful partners in spreading God's word.
- We thank God for Rev. Dr. Linus Otronyi's diligent work and pray for God's blessings on his family and his continued service to the Lord.
- Pray for wisdom for the translation teams as they work to translate the Bible into their own languages.
- Give thanks for our mentors, who have shown us the way. Pray for us as we seek to mentor others.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings from Missouri. We came in July for meetings and to make the rounds with our doctors. We had one week of meetings with missionaries from Lutheran Bible Translators and the Mission of Christ Network in Concordia, Missouri. We had time to worship together, pray together, and discuss serving in cross-cultural situations. It was helpful to compare and contrast our experiences with others. God-willing, we hope to be back in Nigeria the second week of August. As always, we are grateful to our partners for the opportunity to serve overseas and to sharpen our skills.

A NEW CONSULTANT

July was an eventful month for one of the people with whom we have been working. Rev. Linus Otronyi is a pastor in the Lutheran Church of Nigeria. He has been working with us on various projects since 1999, when he was in the seminary. Early in July Rev. Otronyi received his PhD degree from Africa International University in Nairobi, Kenya. And

during our gathering in Concordia, Missouri, he was recognized as a Translation Consultant. Congratulations to Rev. Dr. Linus Otronyi!



BELIEVE

Rev. Dr. Otronyi's research project deals with the word often translated "believe" in English. His thesis covers how this term is handled in the Greek text of the Gospel of John and how it is translated into the Yala language. In southern Nigeria, many languages have tended to use a term which implies more agreement and less trust in many contexts. This approach of doing deep research in the original languages of the Bible and the languages in which translation is being done is helpful for other translation teams as it shows how to handle this term and other key Biblical terms.

*Here we are with Rev. Dr. Otronyi
at the gathering in Missouri*

OUR MENTORS: KEN AND BETTY GREINKE ⇒

While we were in Concordia, Missouri, we were happy to see Rev. Ken and Betty Greinke. When we first arrived in Nigeria in 1985, Ken and Betty had been there for about 20 years. They welcomed us and helped us get settled. Adapting to a new physical setting with different cultural practices can be challenging, and Ken and Betty walked us through many situations. Rev. Dr. Otronyi was also happy to see them, as he had heard much about their service in Nigeria.



Here we are with Ken and Betty Greinke on the right and Rev. Dr. Otronyi in the center



⇐ ANOTHER MENTOR: JIM LAESCH

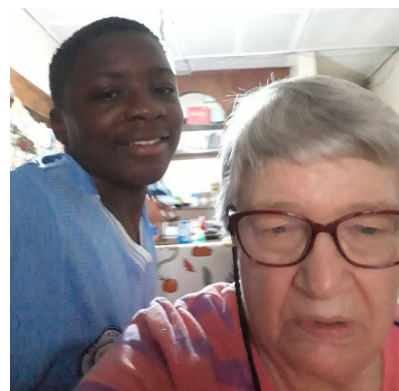
Jim Laesch is another one of our mentors. We met Jim just over 20 years ago, and he has been extremely helpful in many areas, including linguistics and translation. The technical aspects of the work are one thing, but another important consideration is the human factor. Jim has a lot of experience in developing partnerships, and has been sharing his understanding with us. Also in the picture on the left with Jim and Karen is Ruthie Wagner. She and her family served in Sierra Leone. She is now serving as a Consultant-in-Training, and we are mentoring her.

CLOSE TO HOME

We have been able to see our grandchildren, and we are very proud of all of them. Ethan graduated from college and is looking at what's next. Aidan finished his first year of college. He has been helping again with summer camp this summer. Mason will be starting high school and he's gearing up for football season. Overseas, Rina celebrated her second birthday. On the right is a picture of John David just before we left.



Rina on her
2nd birthday



Karen and John David concentrating
on something

APPRECIATION!

We are always thankful for your kindness and support. May God continue to bless you!

God's blessings,

Chuck + Karen Tessaro

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