



Lutheran Bible
Translators

Proclaim to Every Nation

Janine Pluger serving Ethiopia

Fall 2026

Working Together in Arba Minch

What does it mean to work together in a different culture, in a different country? Listening. It means a lot of listening. I love that through this listening I get to hear about what happens in the day-to-day life of the workers who are dedicated to reaching their communities with God's word. I hear about the struggles of being trapped in the office for 4 days because a band of people were moving through the countryside near the office with weapons. I hear about the 25 people who are beginning to read for the first time and how they are inspired and excited to read God's word in their language. I hear about the seasons and flooding rivers and being stuck for hours waiting for help for their entrenched transport to be pried loose from the mud. I hear about communities so motivated to be given the tools to create music in their language and culture (incorporating the recently translated Psalms) that they have created almost 100 new songs for their worship services. In four months.

I get to hear these stories and help these teams map out their work from year to year. Thank you for joining me on this journey and being someone who listens and prays with me.



The South Gumuz Bible translation team in their office in Assosa, Ethiopia



Working Together in Assosa

Sometimes working together means flying in on the 7:30 am flight and flying out on the 5:30 pm flight.

In between the security checks and flight safety demonstrations, I get to be in meetings. This may not sound very glamorous but it is really important for each person on the team to have the opportunity to give input and to share their opinions.

It is my privilege to get to be the liaison between those plans and the LBT administration in the U.S.

Please pray that I accurately represent and advocate for the work that these Bible translation teams and scripture engagement workers do in Ethiopia. Pray for excellent communication between the teams and their coordinators and me and my supervisors. Pray that God's will be done to bring his people close to Him.

In September all proposals and plans for 2027 were submitted to LBT. Now the current work will carry on as decisions are made for the work that will happen in the future. If you would like to be a part of this work in Ethiopia, check out: <https://lbt.org/program-countries/ethiopia/>

Hospitality!!

I have a confession to make. I don't like coffee. In Ethiopia one of the cornerstones of the hospitality of the people is, you guessed it, the coffee ceremony.

I have learned to drink coffee, and I will admit I have had the absolute best coffee I have ever tasted made from scratch in a friend's house. I watched the coffee go from green bean to a smoking fragrant roast to finally being ground, steeped, and served piping hot with some sweetened popcorn on the side.

For work, I visit Arba Minch often. The team there is very kind and serves me the beautiful concoction pictured here. This is called loze buna or peanut coffee. It is a delicious drink made from melted peanut butter and splash of coffee. I appreciate that their hospitality extends to knowing my favorite drink and providing it when they can.



My other favorite part of seeing the teams is also getting to see the countryside where they work.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise for safe travels and productive meetings to prepare for grant proposals in Ethiopia
- Praise for a smooth transition to working remotely from Zambia
- For God's word to reach more and more people in the languages of their hearts

CONTACT

janine.pluger@LBT.org

WhatsApp: +251 976 56 56 95

www.LBT.org/pluger

Janine Pluger

PO Box 789

Concordia, MO 64020

*Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to **proclaim** to those who live on the earth—to **every nation, tribe, language and people.***

—Revelation 14:6