

ANNOUNCEMENT

After more than ten years serving as a translation advisor with Lutheran Bible Translators, I will be leaving LBT at the end of October. Over these years, I have had the privilege of working alongside the Mende and Themne translation teams and the Bible Society of Sierra Leone as they help language communities access and use God's Word in the language they understand best. Bible translation takes a lot of teamwork, patience, and perseverance, and I am grateful to have shared in this work.

Serving with LBT has been an important part of my life and calling. I have learned so much from the translators, reviewers, church leaders, colleagues, and friends who have welcomed me, challenged me, and encouraged me along the way. I have truly enjoyed the work and the relationships that have grown through it, but I believe this is a good time for me to step away from my role with LBT and explore other opportunities in Sierra Leone.

Thank you for faithfully praying, encouraging me, and supporting this ministry. Your partnership has helped the translation teams continue the careful work of drafting, checking, reviewing, and preparing Scripture so it can be used in churches, homes, and communities. There is still a lot of work to do, but little by little the work is moving forward!



Team Checking with Mende Translation Team

YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT

As I make this transition, please consider continuing your prayer and financial support for Lutheran Bible Translators. One option is to support my colleague Michelle Gillard, who serves as Associate Program Consultant for programs in Papua New Guinea (PNG). You may also continue supporting the Mende and Themne Bible Translation Programs and the important work still ahead.

Michelle brings years of mission and ministry experience to this work, including service with LCMS Missions in Uganda and ministry involvement in South Sudan, Guatemala, India, the Caribbean, and Mexico. She understands that program support is built through relationships, listening, learning, and working together with local partners.

Michelle works remotely from Cambridge, Minnesota, and she travels to Papua New Guinea a few times each year. Her husband pastors a local congregation, and they have two adult daughters. I am grateful for the experience and care she brings to this ministry.



Michelle Gillard in PNG

DO YOU HAVE RECURRING GIFTS?

If you have recurring gifts to my ministry, they will be processed through October 31. **After that date, recurring gifts will automatically be applied to support Michelle Gillard unless you choose to update or stop your gift.**

If you would like to change your recurring gift, please contact Gift Records at GiftRecords@LBT.org or 660-225-0810. Or you can update your giving through the donor portal. (<https://account.raisedonors.com/lbt/login>)

If you have questions about this transition, Alyssa Petty would be glad to help at Alyssa.Petty@LBT.org or 660-252-0821.



Check with Themne Translation Team to Prepare for Consultant

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for the Mende and Themne teams during this transition.
- Pray for wisdom, perseverance, and patience as the teams continue checking translations, and pray that people will use Scripture to edify their churches, homes, and communities.
- Pray for the Bible Society of Sierra Leone and the language communities they serve.
- Pray for me as I take this next step and explore other opportunities in Sierra Leone.

Praise God for your continued faithful prayers and support!



Rainbow in Mile 91 – best place to stop between Bo and Makeni. A sign of hope for this next season.

Lamentations 3:22-23

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” (NRSV)

“Ndemɔi loma gbaukpauɪ ɛ ɛ geɛ kunafɔ va, ngi manumei geɛma ii na; ti ninangɔi ngenda gbi, bi lanayeɪ wɔlongɔ waa le.” (Mende)

“Mábothər məbəkəsər ma ɔMARKI mə bayɛ kə poŋ, áney ɣoŋ áŋ bayɛ kə der rɔ thálnɛ; məfu rəbəth-o bəth; kábothlanɛ kɔŋ kəbana.” (Themne)

“..na PAPA GɔD in lɛknɛs fɔ mɔtalman we nɔ de dɔn, in sɔri-at nɔ de dɔn atɔl; ɛvri mɔnin na nyu wan i de get fɔ wi;in tret waka we i de waka in kayn nɔ de.” (Krio)

CONTACT

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Give – Please prayerfully consider your ongoing support for Lutheran Bible Translators so all people can know that God speaks their language.

www.LBT.org/Gillard
www.LBT.org/Themne
www.LBT.org/Mende