

Messenger

What's on Their Minds?

Two Missionary Families Move Overseas

Editor's note: Before the Fays and Rudowskes left to go overseas, we sat down with them and talked about their experiences to date, their hopes, aspirations and concerns. Following are excerpts from those conversations.

Describe your "long term assignment."

Kory and Cara: Cara will be keeping a home for us and home schooling the children while building relationships with and ministering to the people in the community. I will be a translation advisor with a Cameroonian language group, working with a team to translate the Bible. We'll both be trying to model the love of Jesus to the people we serve in our actions, words and thoughts. By God's grace, we hope to help bring people to faith through this ministry.

At the moment, it looks as if we will be working among the Nizaa people in Cameroon. This language group of 10,000 to 15,000 speakers is primarily Muslim. The language has an alphabet and there has been some preliminary translation work.

Rich and Maya: We'll be working with national Christians in Botswana to help bring people to faith in Christ by translating the Bible into the Shekgalagari language. Maya will be maintaining our household, working with the children, and building relationships with people in the villages.

Why are you doing this?

Kory and Cara: Our hearts break every time we think about the people who do not have the very thing we turn to every day... God's Word. It's a blessing and a privilege to be a part of making the Word of God available to those who don't have it.

Rich and Maya: This is God's call for our life and family. Helping to bring people to Christ through translation is what we were meant to do.

What are your biggest immediate challenges?

Rich and Maya: We need to get settled and readjusted as a family, both physically and emotionally, so we can start our work. We need to get to know the people we'll be working among... start to learn their language, their customs, and build trust. The logistics of packing for seven and choosing or having to decide what to take and what to leave behind are very big.

Kory and Cara: Our time in France is short and transitional. About the time we get really adjusted here, we'll be pulling up stakes and moving to Cameroon. In order to be most effective in Cameroon, our French speaking skills need to be very good, and we don't have much time. The children are very small and require a lot of attention.

What do you think you will miss the most?

Rich and Maya: Our friends, family, good coffee. We will also miss the ability to access goods and services at a whim, to fix things or make things work better.

Kory and Cara: The familiar... and our families, friends and food... the ease with which we communicate in English versus French and Cameroonian languages. Access to help and services for big and little things. If we can't fix it ourselves, we pretty much have to learn to live without it if it breaks.

What do you think you are most happy to leave behind?

Kory and Cara: The fast-paced life, the focus on getting more "stuff", the entertainment industry.

Continued on page 6

The mission of Lutheran Bible Translators [LBT] is to help bring people to faith in Jesus Christ by making the Word of God available to those who do not yet have it in the language of their hearts.

Inside this issue...

A Heart for Missions: Why We Do It...2	Reflections: What Does That Mean—Exactly?4
I.D.I.O.M. Workshop Participants Start Application Process.....2	Weathering the Storm4
Much Changes Over 48 Years of Bible Translation But The Motivation, Work And Mission Continue.....3	Lutheran Bible Translators Mission and Ministry Featured In September/October Issue Of Connections5



a heart
for missions

Why We Do It

I was watching a hospital drama on television recently. Two doctors were particularly despondent because of patients with terminal conditions and surgeries that were unsuccessful. One doctor commented, "Some days I hate my job." A third doctor came on the scene, assessed the situation and said, "Follow me!" They went down the hall and stopped in front of a large window looking into a patient's room. There, two parents were with their son—a son who had recently come through an especially difficult and successful surgery. The son was smiling, and the parents were clearly elated. The third doctor looked at the other two and affirmed, "That's why we do it."

This point of view is central to LBT's ministry.

I made my first trip to Africa in 1997 to attend the dedication of the Anyi New Testament in Côte d'Ivoire. One of the Scripture readings was done by an elderly Anyi pastor. When the Anyi project was launched, he was uneducated and illiterate. Over the years he played a significant role in the project, learned to read, and became an effective lay preacher. On the day of the dedication, he read the Anyi text with confidence and enthusiasm. *That's why we do it.*

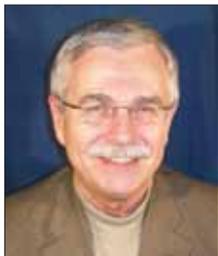
In 2008, I had the privilege of attending the Ipili New Testament dedication in Papua New Guinea. The Ipili translation took more years than anticipated, with more than its share of challenges. But on that August day, approximately 1,500 people gathered for the dedication ceremonies. Since then, there has been a growing interest in the printed Word, and the Ipili New Testament in an audio format will soon be ready for use, reaching even more people. *That's why we do it.*

We often cite Martin Luther's prayer for World Mission: "Pray the Lord of the harvest that he will send laborers into the harvest." But don't stop praying when the laborers leave for the harvest field—keep praying! There are challenges to be faced. Helen Marten looks back over a lifetime of Bible translation ministry and the difficulties she encountered. The Fays and the Rudowskes express their thoughts about the challenges ahead. But they, and we, are committed to the mission—to help bring people to faith in Jesus Christ by making the Word of God available to those who do not have it in the language of their hearts.

And that's why we do it...with your faithful help! 📖

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Dr. Marshall R. Gillam, CFRE
Executive Director



I.D.I.O.M. Workshop Participants Start LBT Application Process

Half of the 14 participants in Lutheran Bible Translators 2009 I.D.I.O.M. workshops either began the LBT missionary application process for career missionary service or requested volunteer missionary applications.

"I.D.I.O.M. solidified my desire and sense of calling to serve in missions, particularly in translation," said one participant.

The 2009 workshop saw two participants initiate the career missionary application process. Another five asked for volunteer missionary applications. A ninth participant plans on serving as a missionary kid tutor as a volunteer next summer.

In Depth Investigation of Missions (I.D.I.O.M.) is a free series of sessions that run over a period of three days. Individuals and couples considering long term missionary service who attend the sessions are informed, advised and encouraged to ask questions of seasoned missionaries and experienced staff members. They broaden their awareness of mission service in areas ranging from training, living standards, field expectations and cross cultural engagement to the role of national partners.

"It is tremendously encouraging to see so many people take the next step in missionary service with LBT," said Peter Slayton, LBT recruiter and I.D.I.O.M. coordinator. "It shows the Holy Spirit working in the hearts and minds of the attendees, raising up people with the passion to help make God's Word available to those who do not yet have it."

LBT seeks to augment and expand its ministry in the next five years by adding new missionary teams. Tentative dates for 2010 I.D.I.O.M. sessions are June 2-5 and August 4-7.

These free events, including sessions, local transportation, housing and meals, are held in Aurora, Illinois, and are open to Lutherans seriously considering overseas missionary service. For more information on I.D.I.O.M., visit www.LBT.org and click on "IDIOM".



I.D.I.O.M. participants included Russ Elser, (considering volunteer service), Kim Acton (possible volunteer service in Scripture Engagement), and Nicole Creutz (considering volunteer missionary kid teacher position in Ghana).

**MUCH
CHANGES
OVER 48
YEARS OF
BIBLE
TRANSLATION
BUT THE
MOTIVATION,
WORK AND
MISSION
CONTINUE**



Translation required retyping the text many times.



Dugout canoe was the main way to travel.



The translation team often worked outside.

A One-Way Ticket to the Edge of the World

Helen Marten bought a one way ticket to Papua New Guinea (PNG) in 1961. Living along the banks of the Sepik River with her fellow translator, Velma Foreman, their primary translation tools were:

- 2 way Pioneer radio
- 3 X 5 cards
- carbon paper
- kerosene lamps and a Petromax pressure lamp
- knitting needle
- paper hole punch
- pens, pencils
- portable typewriter
- reams of paper
- several Bibles
- shoebox
- wind up reel-to-reel
- Bulopa tape recorder

“There was no store, no electricity,” she remembered. “We lived in a sago leaf roofed home and when possible, worked outside, learning and practicing the language and making an alphabet. We walked or took a dugout canoe about everywhere we needed to go.” She and Velma relied on many villagers to learn the Yessan-Mayo language, and on local nationals Baswandel and Limel to develop the first alphabet. Robert Merkwuse was their primary partner on their first New Testament translation.

“We recorded words on 3 X 5 cards and kept them safe, filed in shoeboxes. We carefully punched holes in an exact place on the cards to differentiate nouns, verbs, adjectives...” Helen remembered with a smile. Today one of the computer dictionary software programs translators use is called “Shoebbox”.

“When we needed to organize or sort various groupings of words, we’d take a knitting needle and run it through the right hole in the 3 X 5 card deck ‘snagging’ all the verbs, or nouns,” she said. “When you lifted up the needle and shook it, if you’d done your job right, all the cards containing the word group you wanted fell away from the needle and you had quickly sorted the deck.”

Retyping the New Testament as Many as 20 or 30 Times

Helen says, “Translation required retyping the text many times over on a typewriter to put in corrections as we went along, so we could have a clean, hard copy... in order to make more corrections. To make multiple copies for the village checking committee, we relied on carbon paper... retyping again.”

Later updates and revisions were checked with a committee of pastors and church leaders. New Testaments were usually manually typed 20 to 30 times before being ready to publish.

On the mission field today, accommodations may still be very simple and spartan. Transportation can be difficult. But new tools and technologies can speed translation efforts and quality:

- computers have largely replaced typewriters and minimized the time it takes to edit and revise a translation

- printers take the place of carbon paper
- software programs find anomalies and identify inconsistent word usage or spelling
- solar power and generators can provide power or supplement nonexistent or inconsistent local electrical supplies
- cell phones make communications faster and much more reliable
- small digital recorders replace heavy, bulky reel-to-reel tape recorders
- radio as well as video help spread the message and speed communications within a language group

“Today, we are no longer the prime movers... but helpers and facilitators,” Helen said. “Local leaders and pastors can help their people read and understand God’s Word. It’s primarily in their hands.”

Since leaving PNG in 2005, Helen has been serving in Waxhaw, North Carolina, at the Wycliffe JAARS center. There she helps develop vernacular media tools for translation programs around the world, reviewing media tools that other organizations produce, and writing scripts for Bible stories. Others then produce DVDs and audio recordings, dubbing videos and adding pictures and images to help illustrate Bible stories for the people of PNG and many other countries.

“LBT helped me find the prayer partners and financial supporters I needed to serve,” Helen said, smiling. “I well remember those three month long car trips looping around the States each furlough, visiting those faithful supporters and congregations and making new friends.”

“The Lord has blessed me with friendships all over the world,” she said. “Some of the people, my friends... who I first met more than 40 years ago, are still a part of the ministry today. God did it all. He provided everything we needed, including the motivation and all those wonderful supporters. Praise His Holy Name!” 

Helen Marten, a native of Maywood, Illinois, has been a missionary Bible translator for 48 years. An LBT associate, she came to know Christ in Sunday School at the age of 7. She first heard God’s call to be a missionary at 14, the year she was confirmed.

After graduating from college and teaching for three years, she completed a year of Bible School, required training in linguistics and cultural awareness, and left for Papua New Guinea in November, 1961, as a translator with Wycliffe/SIL.

While home on her first furlough in 1966, Rev. Morrie Watkins, LBT’s first Executive Director, helped her raise financial support for her ministry. In PNG, she and teammate Velma Foreman worked with a local believer translating the New Testament into the Yessan-Mayo language. Completed in 1980, it was LBT’s first Bible translation project. Later Helen and Velma also helped translate the New Testament into the Yawu language, completed in 1996.

Helen’s last field project was the revision of the Yessan-Mayo New Testament, now called Yamano, completed in 2004. She continues to enjoy her service as a resource assistant and advisor at JAARS. She is considering slowing down a little.



What Does That Mean—Exactly?

By John Strasen

How often I've asked that question, or thought it! Hardly a day goes by without my wondering about the true meaning of some word or phrase in the Dhimba language. And the wondering doesn't stop when I get an answer. Because I'm never certain how good the answer is.

Think about it. Here I am, asking non-native English speakers to give me a good English equivalent for a Dhimba expression. Their answers are only as good as what they've heard from other non-native English speakers. With patience and time you can get closer to the truth. But it *takes* patience and time, and still there's almost always an element of uncertainty. How does accurate translation work happen? Patience, time, and a healthy dose of the Holy Spirit, no doubt.

But some words have multiple meanings. That's true in any language. Over time words tend to acquire new uses and meanings. Take the English word 'club' for instance. A 'club' can be:

- a group of people joined together for a special purpose
- a place where these people meet
- a heavy stick used as a weapon
- a piece of sports equipment

If you *throw a club*, you might be trying to protect yourself or you might be trying to hurt someone. But you also might be

playing a game of cards or a round of golf. How can you know for sure? Context is often the deciding factor. The context in which an event occurs generally informs the audience (reader or hearer) of the correct interpretation.

The Dhimba language also has its share of words that carry dual meanings. Some of the clearest examples are seen in things that occur in nature. For example, the word '*etango*' means 'sun', but it can also mean 'day'. The word '*omwedhi*' means 'moon', or it can mean 'month'. The word '*ombula*' means 'rain' in some contexts. In others it means 'year'. The dual nature of these words can best be explained by considering the periodic nature of the sun, moon, and rain. It is interesting that rain is seen to be an annual event in African cultures of this region.

The dual meaning of other words has little or no explanation. '*Odhondjedhi*' can mean both 'beard' and 'enemies'. '*Ohi*' can mean both 'fish' and 'earth'. Is there a connection? Perhaps historically... but maybe not.

This last example illustrates an interesting translation issue. How do you translate Matthew 12:40? "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge **fish**, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the **earth**." If the Dhimba word 'ohi' is used for both 'fish' and 'earth' in this sentence, how will its different uses be understood

Continued on page 7

Weathering the Storm



Rick Allmon

by Rick Allmon

Forest fires are rarely thought of as anything other than totally destructive. But oddly enough, after the devastation of a forest fire, the forest is renewed with a fresh blanket of life. Seedlings spring from cones that yield only to the intense flames and heat of the fire itself. A botanist would say it's nature's way of self-preservation. A

Christian says it's God's way of taking care of His creation.

Storms are inevitable and oftentimes harsh. We're all familiar with them. The LBT Service Center is located in the Midwest, known for tornados. My brother lives in Florida and often boards up his windows, stocks up on drinking water, and dusts off the generator in anticipation of hurricanes.

The economic situation we face today is not unlike a storm. It has caused destruction, devastating many who have lost businesses and homes. Others have lost savings and

investments that will take years to replace. Although some claim that the recession is over, the aftermath of this financial crisis will reverberate for years to come.

The struggling economy has affected each and every one of us, causing us to cut back and stop spending. It has forced us to examine our priorities. Like the forest renewing itself from the fire, many have discovered that the nurture of faith and family is the seed that unites us in adversity and provides hope for the future.

Weathering the storm. We know that God is in control. Just as Jesus calmed the waters and the wind, God is with us during all the storms of our lives, providing, protecting, and offering hope.

During these uncertain times, when dollars are hard to come by, your gifts are vitally important to LBT. We understand that you may be facing difficulties, and are truly appreciative of your willingness to contribute to LBT's missionaries and programs.

May God bless you for your faithful prayer and financial support. Together, relying on God's mercy and grace, we will continue to bring Scripture to those waiting to learn about Jesus Christ. 📖

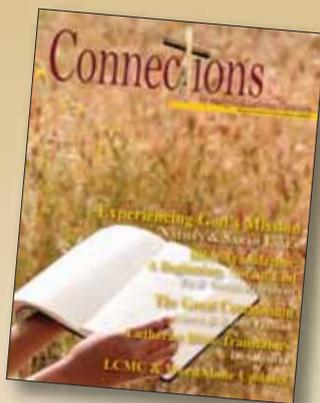
LUTHERAN BIBLE TRANSLATORS MISSION AND MINISTRY FEATURED IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE OF CONNECTIONS

CONNECTIONS magazine, a Lutheran evangelical publication that highlights noteworthy mission efforts and organizations, devoted almost all of its September/October issue to the missionary work of Lutheran Bible Translators.

“We’re flattered and honored that the editors at *Connections* noted our missionaries’ work, our mission efforts, and thought enough of them to feature LBT in their Reformation issue,” said Marshall Gillam, LBT Executive Director.

Individuals interested in a copy of the publication can write or email LBT to request reprints. The stories are also available on the LBT website at www.LBT.org.

In its September/October Reformation issue, *Connections* features seven stories by current LBT missionaries and staff members, focusing on LBT’s field



mission work, its impact, and the Biblical motivation behind what LBT missionaries do.

The missionaries, staff members and story titles are: Rev. Nathan and Sarah Esala (Ghana)—*Experiencing God’s Mission by Sending and Receiving the Gospel*; Rev. Chuck and Karen Tessaro (Nigeria)—*The Great Commission...A Bible Study*; Paul Kinney (Scripture Engagement Coordinator, LBT Service Center)—*The Transformation of Marta*; Ed and Wilma Rupprecht (Nigeria)—*Bible Translation; a Beginning, Not an End*; Dr. James Maxey (Director of Program Ministries)—*Whose Religion is Christianity? A Book Review*; Jim Pindras (Associate Director of Congregational Relations)—*Improving Your Serve*; Don Ruhter, (Director of Advancement)—*Meet a Mission*.

Those interested in subscribing to *Connections*, learning more, or viewing current or back issues can contact *Connections* at:
PO Box 372 Fergus Falls, MN 56538
Connections@Bible-aliveministries.com
www.Bible-aliveministries.com

Need More Information?

Return this coupon to:

Rick Allmon, CFRE
Associate Director for Development
Lutheran Bible Translators, 303 N Lake Street, PO Box 2050,
Aurora, IL 60507-2050
Phone: 1-800-532-4253 or 630-897-0660 Fax: 630-897-3567
E-mail: Rick@LBT.org

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone with Area Code _____

- Please send me information on **Investments and Taxes**.
- I would like information on making a gift of stock by electronic transfer.
- Please contact me.

Making a Gift?

**Your tax-deductible gift can be made by check or credit card.
Please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope.**

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover American Express
Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Amount of Gift: _____

Signature: _____

- I would like to make a regular monthly donation by major credit card.
- I would like to make a one-time gift.

Additional on-line giving opportunities and information about LBT are available on our web site: www.LBT.org



What's on Their Minds?

Continued from page 1

Rich and Maya: The 'busy-ness' of American culture. We think it will be a relief to escape the media bombardment in the U.S.

What are you most looking forward to?

Rich and Maya: Settling in and learning how to live in Botswana. Getting into the heart of the country... meeting people and starting our work.

Kory and Cara: Learning a new language... actually new languages. Setting foot on African soil and meeting the people we will be serving. Eventually settling into a 'permanent' place to live and raise our family. A slower pace, rural living.

What is/are your biggest fears?

Rich and Maya: Balancing family, work and projects. Meshing, becoming part of the community... how the kids will adjust.

Kory and Cara: That we will be so stressed out it will hurt our relationships within our family. Taking care of the family. In Cameroon, we are concerned about the lack of access to quality medical care coupled with all the new sicknesses and diseases we will encounter. Generally speaking, the unknown.

Where will you be living?

Kory and Cara: In Cameroon, we'll probably be in a small village. We'll probably have electrical power through solar panels and cold, running water. We'll cook from scratch, wash our laundry by hand, and have to boil water if we want a hot bath or shower.

Rich and Maya: In our area of Botswana, the landscape is low, flat and arid. The Kalahari desert takes up most of the countryside. Our home will probably be a small ranch style house with a tin roof. In the summer, the temperature can exceed 100 degrees during the day.

Thoughts

Rich and Maya: We've been building up to this as a couple and as a family for a long time. Faith has brought us this far. We know God has a plan and we are part of it. Despite struggles and conditions that are far from ideal, we know it will work because of God.

Kory and Cara: Embarking on any ministry journey takes faith. We have to trust that God will take what little we have, and hopefully do great things with it... even if we don't see all the fruit at once. Challenges may come, but we rest in Jesus' promise to be with us. 📖



The Rudowskes began their assignment in Botswana in August.

Rev. Richard and Maya Rudowske and their five children (Christopher, Katherine, Matthew, Joshua, and Rebecca) completed preparations and left the U.S. in August. The children range in age from 14 to 5. They relocated to Botswana where they will be working with the Bakgalagari people to translate a New Testament into the Shekgalagari language. Completing this translation could take seven to ten years... or more.



The Fays will study in France to prepare for their assignment in Cameroon.

Kory and Cara Fay and their children, Samuel (2-1/2) and Lucy (6 months), left the U.S. in August for study in France. Their eventual destination is north central Cameroon near the Nigerian border. They will be working among the Nizaa people to translate a New Testament. Before they can be the most effective in that work however, they must become fluent in French, the official language of Cameroon. To that end, supplementing the preliminary work they did in the U.S., they are immersing themselves in French language studies at l'Institut Français des Alpes in Chambéry, France.

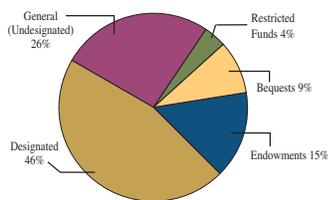
LBT Partnership Support

July 1, 2009 — September 30, 2009

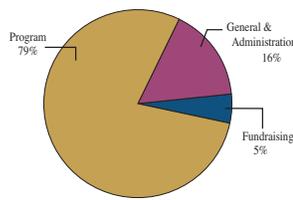
INCOME

	Unaudited 3rd Quarter	Unaudited Year-to-date
Designated	\$352,636	\$1,159,262
General (Undesignated)	195,999	718,952
Restricted Funds	33,896	164,338
Bequests	66,786	310,686
<u>Endowments</u>	<u>112,602</u>	<u>257,954</u>
Total Income	\$761,918	\$2,611,193

3rd Quarter Income



3rd Quarter Expenses



EXPENSES

Program	\$677,450	\$2,171,124
General & Administration	134,881	446,831
<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>41,122</u>	<u>166,916</u>
Total Expenses	\$853,453	\$2,784,871
Net Total	(\$91,535)	(\$173,678)

CUT HERE

CUT HERE

Birthdays

DECEMBER

- 2 **Allen Larsen**
Guatemala
- 5 **Isaac Esala** (2008)
Ghana
- 9 **Larry Johnson**
United States
- 9 **Jill Boylan**
Namibia
- 14 **Paul Federwitz**
Ghana
- 18 **Joan Weber**
Cameroon
- 19 **Katherine Rudowski**
(1998)
Botswana
- 19 **Moses Schroeder**
(2006)
United States
(LOA)*
- 22 **Thomas Larsen**
(1997)
Guatemala
- 25 **John Davies**
Papua New Guinea
- 29 **Terry Borchard**
Papua New Guinea

JANUARY

- 4 **Matthew Rudowski**
(2002)
Botswana
- 6 **Karen Tessaro**
Nigeria
- 7 **Wilma Rupprecht**
Nigeria
- 11 **Erin Kinney** (1991)
United States
- 12 **Joe Dunsey**
Service Center Staff
- 13 **Karen Benesh**
Service Center Staff
- 14 **Mike Buhrke**
Service Center Staff
- 14 **Michael Elliott**
Service Center Staff
- 15 **Alvina Federwitz**
Ghana/Liberia
- 20 **Tim Boylan** (1996)
Namibia
- 22 **David Federwitz**
Ghana
- 24 **Karen Campbell**
Service Center Staff
- 24 **Josiah Kinney**
(1995)
United States
- 24 **Ruth Snyder**
United States

- 27 **Aaron Beckendorf**
(2005)
Botswana
- 29 **Micah Federwitz**
(2006)
Ghana

FEBRUARY

- 3 **Susan Kaiser**
United States
- 8 **JoyAnna Federwitz**
2008
Ghana
- 11 **Anna DeLoach**
(2004)
Papua New Guinea
- 16 **Cindy Rodewald**
South Africa
- 17 **Michael Megahan**
Botswana
- 19 **Matthew Boylan**
(1993)
Namibia
- 23 **Donald Jensen**
United States
- 27 **Mary Gruell**
United States
(LOA)*
- 27 **Wendi Schroeder**
United States
(LOA)*

*Leave of Absence

FOLD

What Does That Mean—Exactly?

Continued from page 4

by a Dhimba audience? Context does not seem to help here. The proximity of the two words to each other will, in all likelihood, suggest to the audience the same use for both words: either 'fish' or 'earth'.

If the Jonah story is well-known, it would then be understood that the Son of Man will be three days and three nights inside a fish. Some suggest explaining the correct interpretation in a footnote. But most people don't read footnotes. And if this passage is read during a church service, as the Gospel reading for example, the footnote would not be read anyway.

This is how the problem has been resolved in the Dhimba language for the moment. Matthew 12:40 reads as follows: "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge 'ohi' of water, so the Son of Man will be buried and stay three days and three nights in the 'ohi' of soil." 'Ohi' of water will suggest 'fish' and 'ohi' of soil will suggest 'earth' to the Dhimba people.

Will this translation stay as it is now? Who can say? But it will stay until a better suggestion comes along. ☺

Gift Designations Your gifts in support of Mission Projects and Programs are applied to the designated project or program. When a designated project is fully funded, surplus funds are applied to comparable projects. When a designated program is fully funded, surplus funds are applied to the general fund.

LBT MISSIONARY Currents

Prayer partnership is the backbone of this ministry. Here are several prayer concerns for which we ask your support. May God bless you abundantly!

CAMEROON

■ Praise God that **Joan Weber** has had no more damage to her eyes from filaria. Pray that her eyesight will remain stable.

GHANA

■ Pray that the Gospel of Luke can be distributed in the **Komba language** of Ghana very soon, and that it will touch the hearts of all who read or hear it.

CANADA

■ Pray for the colleagues, friends and family of **Carol Martin**, former director of LBT-Canada, who passed away this summer. She was serving as an LBT-Canada volunteer missionary in Cameroon at the onset of the illness which led to her death.

LIBERIA

■ Pray for God's blessing for **LIBTRALO's** (Liberian Translation and Literacy Organization) Mother Tongue Education pilot program, now being implemented in two schools for each of 16 languages.



Lutheran Bible Translators • PO Box 2050 • Aurora, IL 60507-2050

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 80
Aurora, IL 60507

Messenger

Volume 36, Number 4
Christmas 2009
Dr. Marshall R. Gillam, Editor
Editorial management by Don Ruhter and Linda Gari
Printed at Kelmscott Communications, Aurora, IL

The Messenger is the official quarterly periodical of Lutheran Bible Translators, Inc. (LBT), 303 N. Lake St., PO Box 2050, Aurora, Illinois 60507-2050.
(630) 897-0660 FAX (630) 897-3567
1-800-53-BIBLE 1-800-532-4253.
Web Site: www.LBT.org E-mail: info@LBT.org
Standard A Non-Profit postage paid at Aurora, Illinois. Printed in the U.S.A.

Comments and inquiries are invited. Correspondence may be directed to the Messenger Editor.

Executive Director:
Dr. Marshall R. Gillam



©2009 Lutheran Bible Translators, Inc.
Permission is granted to excerpt from this publication.
Please send a copy of your use of material to the editor. Thank you!

This mailing was assembled by volunteers!

A Canadian edition of this newspaper is published by Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada, Box 934, Kitchener, Ontario N2G 4E3.

Lutheran Bible Translators is an independent mission group, founded in 1964, which is dedicated to helping bring people to faith in Jesus Christ by making the Word of God available to those who do not yet have it in the language of their hearts. It is the only Lutheran organization totally devoted to this specialized ministry. LBT actively recruits Lutherans to serve as Bible translators, literacy or vernacular media specialists and support missionaries. The LBT ministry is supported by the prayers and contributions of fellow Christians. It is not subsidized by any church body or sponsoring agency.

Want more information about translation, Scripture Engagement, or LBT's ministry in a specific country? Sign up to receive one or more prayer letters from LBT missionaries.

Call Karen Campbell at 1-800-532-4253 for more details.



NIGERIA

■ Praise God for increasing organization and commitment of local language committees for several **Nigerian languages**.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

■ Pray that the recently recorded **Ipili New Testament** will reach many and be well received.

THAILAND

■ Praise God for the publication and distribution of Luke and Ruth, the first translated Bible portions in the **Z language** of Thailand.

UNITED STATES

■ Praise God for **Jonathan Burmeister's** good progress toward recovery from aplastic anemia. Pray for continuing recovery, which will take many more months to complete.

■ Pray for missionary candidates **Chris and Janine Pluger, Rev. Ken Bunge, and Rev. Chris LaBoube**, as they take steps toward becoming LBT missionaries.

■ Pray for the **Boylan family** as they continue Partnership Development. They hope to return to Namibia early next year.



- Pray for **Paul and Ali Federwitz** as they begin furlough. Paul will earn his master's degree prior to their return to Ghana early in 2011.
- Pray for increased prayer and financial support for **LBT missionaries and projects**.

