

Megahans: In His Service

*Jo Ann and Michael Megahan Adjunct Missionaries with Lutheran Bible Translators:
Botswana and Tanzania*

lutheran bible translators
GOD'S WORD
for every language



August-September 2017

Gratitude

We express our thankfulness and joy for all the prayers and financial support we have received since relocating to the States.

We continue to work for LBT, and Michael is in the middle of preparing for a 2-week seminar in Tanzania, September 4-15, on Ukerewe Island.

It is estimated that LBT has made God's Word accessible in the heart language of almost 12,000,000 people.

Your prayer and financial support for the Megahan Ministry will make it possible for the almost 30,000 Kerewe-speaking people to be added into those who already enjoy the fruits of the LBT ministry.

(For information on the work of LBT, options for donating to LBT general fund or individual missionaries or to order resources or other information, go to the home page for lbt.org.)



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Do you want the prayer letter?

Many of you are receiving the periodic updates and prayer letters because you requested it in the past. We know that life changes and sometimes our mailboxes get filled. IF for any reason you would like to be removed from the mailing list, let us know at one of the above addresses.

Psalm 103:5b: ...your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

Lutheran Reformation and Bible Translation

As many know, Lutherans throughout the world are celebrating 500 years of the Lutheran Reformation. The translation of scripture into the Heart Language of the people is a key feature of the Lutheran Reformation.

Recently I was reminded of the *power* of translation as I compared the old Latin Bible (Jerome's translation) and the corrected translation by Luther. Jerome had translated the Greek word "to repent" (metanoia) into Latin as "do penance," (which is the translation found in the 1582 English translation of the Vulgate done at the English college at Rheims) This places the focus on the penitent earning forgiveness by his or her own merit.

Luther understood the Greek word properly as turning away from sin and changing one's life (being penitent). Forgiveness, then, is not something one could earn with penitential acts, but was based on the merits of Christ. This understanding of repentance is foundational to the 95 Theses (for example, Theses 1-4) Luther posted on 31 October 1517, and Lutheran Theology.

The understanding and translation of one phrase or concept can make a world of difference in how the Church teaches and Christians believe and live. Pray for us and ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in an accurate translation of God's Word.



Kerewe at First Workshop Discussing Contexts of Language Usage

Prayer Requests

1. Safe travels for Michael as he goes to Tanzania September.
2. Protection for Jo Ann as she stays behind in Wilmington and continues to make our "nest" comfortable.
3. Finances for the airfare, food and lodging ,as Michael works in Tanzania.
4. Blessings on the Kerewe-speaking workshop participants.