

Good News for Every Language



August 2023

Director's Update

Rev. Ron Mohr



Dear Friends of Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada,

The Mission of Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada 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.

LBTC's mission statement (printed above) has guided our organization for many years. It really has two goals. The first is obvious in our name – to translate the Bible into people's mother tongues or heart languages. And the following statistics highlight the urgent need for this translation work to happen.

There are over 2800 languages that have NO Scripture and NO translation work even beginning. This statistic presents LBTC and indeed all of us with a great challenge.

	Stats as of Sept, 2022*
Number of Living Languages	7051 – 8 billion people
Languages with a complete Bible	724 – 5.9 billion people
Languages with translation work	964 – 74.2 million people
Languages with NO Scripture	2835 – 139 million people

*Stats courtesy of Wycliffe Bible Translators

Here are some ways that LBTC is working to meet that challenge...

Co-operative Effort Between LBTC and LAMP



There are indigenous communities here in Canada that have no Scripture translated into their heart languages. In celebration of our organizations' upcoming anniversaries, LBTC (50 years) and LAMP (55 years) have committed to working together to offer our resources in communities where LAMP has not worked before and whose languages have not had the Bible translated into them.

SURAM Project Entering Final Stage



LBTC and LBT US are both involved in the SURAM – Cameroon project (Scripture Use Research and Ministry). Pastor Kuhn is devoting some of his time to this project which seeks to understand how best to get language communities using the translated Scriptures. Several translation projects are being studied (pictured is a survey being done in the Maaka community) and the data is being analyzed to determine what gets a language community to engage eagerly with God's Word once it is translated.

2023 Special Projects Highlight Scripture Use

Scripture Use Workshops Begin

Madam Alice Robs-Ini has played an integral part in the Dowayo community's Scripture engagement (SE) programs. She trains SE leaders to form Bible Study and Bible Listening groups in a large number of Dowayo villages. Because of this program's success, one of LBTC's 2023 Special Projects is funding a series of SE Workshops led by Madam Alice and a few others in other language communities with ongoing translation projects.



Southern Thai Translation Project Research Begins



Another of our 2023 Special Projects involves new work in Thailand. LBTC and Thailand Concordia Lutheran Church has begun to investigate possibilities for Bible translation projects there. Pastor Chujit (Pictured on the left) has begun to preach and read the Scriptures in Southern Thai. And Pastor Yongthanayot (Pictured on the right) has recorded Luke 2 in Southern Thai. Click the link below or go to lbtc.ca to hear his recording! Both are part of the assessment process to gauge people's receptiveness to having the Bible in Southern Thai.



[https://lbtc.ca/Media/Luke%20%20Southern%20Thai-](https://lbtc.ca/Media/Luke%20%20Southern%20Thai-a.mp4)

[a.mp4](https://lbtc.ca/Media/Luke%20%20Southern%20Thai-a.mp4)

Chaplains Receive Mother Tongue Scriptures for Prison Ministry



About 50 of the over 270 languages in Cameroon have at least some of the Bible translated for them. Another of our 2023 Special Projects is providing funds to make these Bible translations available for the EELC's prison chaplains to distribute and use in their ministries. Pictured here is Rev. Patrick Teneku (r), director of EELC's prison chaplains program, presenting a Gbaya language New Testament to one of the prison chaplains.

One More Note...

Yulin Harley designed the 50th Anniversary logo that you see pictured here. She is currently attending the University of Manitoba, studying Fine Arts. She enjoys creative writing and listening to music, as well as reading. Her home church is St. James, Winnipeg where she has helped with VBS and is part of the congregation's young adult group. We give thanks to God for her artistic talents and for the ways she is using them in His service.



Rejoice with LBTC and its ministry partners that God is spreading His Word in so many ways and through so many people and in more and more languages every day.

Soli Deo Gloria!

At your service, in Christ's service,

Pastor Ron Mohr
Executive Director
Colossians 3:16

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