Taking God's Word into Remote and Rural Areas

Lutheran Bible Translators
Mission Vehicle Fund — $70,000

Lutheran Bible Translators (LBT) started in 1964 and their mission is to make God’s Word accessible to those who do not yet have it in the language of their heart. LBT has partnerships on the continent of Africa, the Middle East, Papua New Guinea, Southeast Asia, and the United States, working to put God’s Word in their hands.

Lutheran Bible Translators is equipping people in the African countries of Ethiopia and Sierra Leone by translating the Word into their local or heart languages of the people. LBT partners with local churches and organizations to run programs including managing translation projects and literacy programs. After translation is complete, literacy programs within the local language communities train people to read the translated Bible and begin a personal relationship with God. When people read God’s Word in their local or heart language, they experience God speaking to them and they respond to His grace in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

Program managers in Sierra Leone and Ethiopia travel to supervise literacy programs and bring needed teaching supplies to the communities. They bring primers, supplementary readers, and Scripture engagement materials such as radios, Bibles, and chalk boards. The roads to the widespread communities are rough and poorly maintained. The washed-out roads and potholes lead to increased wear and tear on tires, suspension, and axles. It takes a robust, reliable vehicle to manage rough terrain and safely deliver partners to their destinations.

This grant will help purchase two vehicles equipped and designed for travel over these rough roads. One vehicle is for the Bible Translation Office of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) which oversees 23 translation projects. The second vehicle is for the literacy coordinator of The Institute of Sierra Leonian Languages (TLSLL) and will be used to visit hard to reach rural areas in Sierra Leone. TLSLL manages literacy and Scripture engagement programs in six Sierra Leonian languages. These visits help local language communities to develop and sustain their own local language literacy classes.

For more information on Lutheran Bible Translators go to lbt.org.

“If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear” (Mark 4:23).

Learn more about this mission grant at lwml.org/mission-grants