



summer 2018

Dan & Sarah Eberle  
*Ezra*  
serving w/DOOR International

*Pray for Luka*

While we were in Kenya, one of the Consultants-In-Training, Luka, received heartbreaking news that he has esophageal cancer. He will need surgery and cancer treatment. He will need to travel to India to get the proper surgery and care. The cost will likely be more than 25,000 USD. We feel that God is asking us to reach out to you on his behalf. If you would like to send any amount to help Luka and his family with medical expenses during this time, please send funds to DOOR International, with a note designating it for the benevolence fund. Please remember Luka, Grace, and their two young children in your prayers; these are dear friends and colleagues. Pray that God would give them grace, mercy, and healing.

We have had a busy few months with lots of surprises! We're excited to share them with you.

## Surprise...back to *Africa*

Near the end of May, we were asked to go to Kenya for a few weeks to teach a workshop on the phonetics and phonology of signed languages. Thankfully, we were able to rearrange things so we could go. We had eight students from DOOR's Consultant-In-Training (CIT) program.



\*Luka is pictured above, top row, 2nd from left.

## Why *linguistics*?

You might be wondering what sign language phonetics and phonology are, and why translation consultants need to know about them. Phonetics is the study of the sounds (in spoken language) and the handshapes, movements, and locations (in a sign language) used by human language. **It provides consultants with the tools they need to describe and reproduce any sign in the world, using a standardized system.** This is especially useful for taking notes, since sign languages typically aren't written down. Phonology is the study of which of those handshapes, movements, and locations are meaningful in a sign language, and the rules which govern their use and interaction with other aspects of the language. In a nutshell, **phonetics and phonology are tools which should help consultants to do their jobs better!** We completed the workshop, and the students were encouraged and excited about what they learned.

Workshops and classes like this provide the training needed for CITs to become certified Bible Translation Consultants with a specialty in signed languages.

After the linguistics workshop, we were able to attend some meetings about how to best meet DOOR's growing need for language surveys. It's becoming clear there's more work to do than we can handle, and **we need to multiply our survey staff to meet the need.** Pray with us that God would provide us with clear solutions to tricky, continent-spanning questions! As part of these discussions, we're trying to figure out ways to gather language data in countries that are difficult to enter or travel in. **Pray with us as we search for and recruit new survey staff to join DOOR's work around the world!**

## SURVEY NEEDS around the world

One way that we're considering meeting these survey needs is holding a three-month training in January. **The goal is to do intense training with Deaf surveyors and prepare them to survey independently around the world.** There is a possibility of inviting Deaf from three continents!



## LOOKING TOWARD THE *future*

### MOVING AGAIN?

We're looking into the possibility of moving to a larger home in Western NY. Right now, our house is set up as a multi-family home, and it's a great situation which we'd like to continue, but both our family and our tenants would benefit from more space. We might stay in Batavia or move to a nearby town, but it will definitely be a short-distance move.

### CONSIDERING ADOPTION

We have just entered the beginning stages of the adoption process. **We're excited about the possibility of growing our family,** but the process is daunting! We have a lot of paperwork and planning, and a lot of fundraising to do. Please pray with us that God would lead us through this undertaking!

DOOR International's mission is to bring God's Word and reproducing Christian fellowships to the Deaf of the world. DOOR is a non-denominational, non-profit (501(c)3) Christian mission organization of many Deaf people (and a few hearing people).



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