



winter 2018

Dan & Sarah Eberle

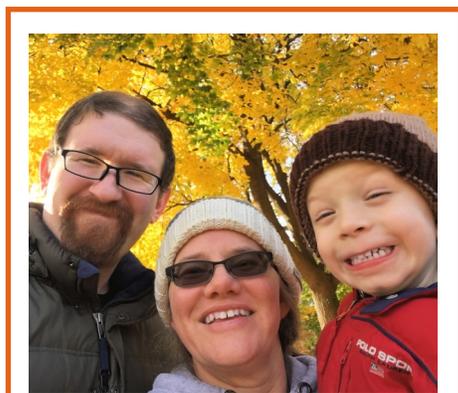
Ezra
serving w/DOOR International

at home

In September, we celebrated Labor Day by camping with some really good friends in Richburg, NY.

Our 10-year anniversary was May 24th but we weren't able to celebrate it until October 16th. We went to Toronto, Canada, for a concert; we had a wonderful time!

Sarah and Ezra are making good progress with homeschooling and have also joined a CO-OP. Ezra is loving learning and is starting to read everything in sight!



It's been a busy year for us, with more on the horizon. Since our last newsletter, we've been working on survey reports for the Democratic Republic of Congo and Nepal, planning for our upcoming survey training conference, and dealing with a lot of busyness in our home life. Praise God for being faithful through it all!

What is *survey*?

Language survey is essentially the process of gathering information about a language and the people who use it. We use ideas and tools from linguistics, sociolinguistics and sociology to gather data, which is then analyzed and written up in reports or presentations. Leaders use these reports to make the best decisions about where and when to start translation projects, who to include, how to distribute finished translations, potential obstacles, and a lot of other strategy. Without language survey, leaders and organizations don't have the information they need to succeed!

Big plans for *survey*

From February to April, we'll be in Kenya, teaching a sign language survey training course. Our goal is to better equip several members of our staff to be able to do survey work independently, and there's a lot to learn and a lot of challenges to overcome. Here are just some of the topics we'll be covering:

- **Participatory Methods** - teaching surveyors how to let the community drive the collection of data
- **Sociolinguistics** - the study of language in relation to social factors, including differences of regional, class, and occupational dialect, gender differences, and bilingualism
- **Data Analysis** - teaching surveyors how to interpret the data they collect
- **Writing Workshop** - how to write technical reports
- **Introductory Statistics** - how to use concepts from statistics to inform our conclusions

As estimated by the World Federation of the Deaf, there are around 70 million Deaf people around the world. Less than two percent of them are reached with the Gospel, making them the largest unreached people group in the world.

TRANSFORMING THE WORLD'S DEAF COMMUNITIES

80% of the Deaf people in the world today receive no education.

This staggering number comes from the World Federation of the Deaf. DOOR recognizes the Deaf as a severely under reached and largely ignored population. While DOOR has chosen to use Scripture as one of the first ways to serve this people group, there are many other areas, such as education, where the global Deaf community is in need of development. This lack of education and resources is a key reason why our 2-by-2 teams and training programs focus on multiplying leaders and teachers among the Deaf.

TRANSFORMATION THROUGH TRAINING

Facing the huge challenges ahead of us, we believe that that best place to begin is to train the Deaf to reach their own communities. Towards that end, DOOR International has trained more than one thousand Deaf leaders.

Areas of training include:

- leadership
- evangelism
- technical skills
- linguistics
- translation

This is why we're going to Kenya in February, to train leaders who can transform their own communities!

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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Email: door@doorinternational.org Websites: www.doorinternational.org / www.deafbibles.com

To send donations: Dept. 9012, P.O. Box 30516, Lansing, MI 48909-8016

While DOOR seeks to apply every gift as intended, all contributions are solicited with the understanding that DOOR has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds.