

SUMMER 2021

STUART & LINDA THIESSEN SERVING WITH DOOR INTERNATIONAL

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PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for Daniel and Mallory as they get ready for the arrival of their daughter.
- Pray for wisdom and good progress for the Translation Resources project and the Chronological Bible Translation project.
- Pray for insight and creativity in tackling the challenges faced by the CEDAR Institute.
- Pray for Linda as she resumes freelance interpreting and soon will also enjoy some grandma duties.
- Please pray for Jim Dowsett and Jason Suhr as they work on the Bible Hand project to develop a presentation of the Bible Hand in ASL.
- Pray for the teens that visited Deaf Harbor, that God may touch their hearts for Deaf ministry.

PERSONAL UPDATE

Thank you for your prayers during this transition. We sold our house in Arlington, Texas in mid-May and made the move to Minnesota. When we began searching for a house in Minnesota, we prayed about the needs we saw for a house. We noticed that God “hid” the house we had in Minnesota before. And with the market situation, we knew that we would need His help to find a place that was a good fit and affordable. We asked Him to “hide” a house again. **The house God “hid” for us is one that is close to our kids and still within a reasonable drive from Deaf Harbor.** We closed on the house on June 24 and moved in on July 17. We had a lot of great help. **We thank God for His provision of a place that we can afford and believe will be a good fit.** We are looking forward to the arrival of our new granddaughter around July 21st. We appreciate this time to be able to support Daniel and Mallory as they get ready for her.

Thank you to those who have moved your giving to DOOR International. **If you have any questions, you can email us at stuartt@doorinternational.org or thiessenlinda@gmail.com.** Stuart started working with DOOR International informally on June 1. Formally, he begins on July 1. As you will see, much of what Stuart is doing and will be doing is familiar. They are needs within the Bible translation movement that we have shared with you before.

WAYS TO GIVE

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SUPPORTING DEAF HARBOR

One part of Stuart's work is providing consultant feedback for the translation resources development work that Deaf Harbor is doing. **These resources provide video training for Deaf translators.** This process includes interaction with the broader sign language Bible translation community. They are re-filming Phase 1 based on feedback received and doing research to prepare for Phase 2.

God has provided funding for Deaf Harbor to do some revisions of the ASL Chronological Bible Translation (ASL CBT) stories from 2013 as well as translate more stories. During June, the team called back one signer from 2013 who completed revisions to four of his stories which Stuart was able to review and approve. The following week, a group of Deaf teens visited Deaf Harbor for a week and the team introduced them to the need and challenges of Bible translation by walking through the translation process using a new story they were working on. That new story is in final editing, soon to be reviewed for final approval.

Deaf Bible Society has handed off to Deaf Harbor a project Stuart had encouraged. **Bible Hand is a visual Bible overview that uses Deaf ways of remembering information. This will be a valuable tool not only for Bible translators but also those in the Deaf community.** Jim Dowsett, a Wycliffe colleague, is the key developer. Jim will be working with Deaf Harbor on Bible Hand.

Another part of Stuart's work at DOOR is being involved in the CEDAR Institute, DOOR's response to developing more Deaf consultants and developing the resources they need for checking sign language Bible translations. **In addition to developing training, two key parts of CEDAR focus on addressing significant roadblocks for Deaf consultants.**

SUPPORTING THE CEDAR INSTITUTE

One roadblock is the expectation for translation consultants to have at least a master's degree (or equivalent) in a relevant field. **This level of training is not always in a language Deaf people can access and, in certain countries, Deaf access to education may not support university or graduate level training.**



The other roadblock is the availability of various exegetical, linguistic, and cultural resources. After all, not even hearing translation consultants have all these Biblical details memorized. Unfortunately, these resources are primarily in English. **We need these resources in sign languages to support Deaf translation consultants.** Also, it would be helpful to have resources that directly address issues unique to sign language Bible translation.

Please be praying for wisdom and creativity as DOOR staff members working on CEDAR look at these needs.



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ABOUT DOOR

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.

Send gifts to: Dept. 9012, P.O. Box 30516, Lansing, MI 48909-8016

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