

FALL 2023

STUART & LINDA THIESSEN SERVING WITH DOOR INTERNATIONAL

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A SEASON OF THANKSGIVING

That He causes all things to work together for good is what undergirds our thanksgiving because we know that He is actively present in our world and our lives. He is not a Clockmaker who abandons His creation, nor is He capricious like the ancient gods that Israel's neighbors worshiped. He is "the Lord, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, and abounding in loyal love and faithfulness, keeping loyal love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin. But he by no means leaves the guilty unpunished, responding to the transgression of fathers by dealing with children and children's children, to the third and fourth generation." (Exodus 34:6-7) In this holiday season, though there are events in our ministry and in our world that could cause us to be concerned, we can thank God in everything because of who He is and rest in that whatever may be out of our control is fully within His power to control. Practicing this in our lives is an area in which we want to grow.

“He causes all things to work together for good.”

SIGN LANGUAGE TRANSLATION TOOL (SLTT)

We are thankful that we could have a presentation at the bi-annual Bible Translation Conference in Dallas, Texas in October. We had hoped that our colleague Caio would be able to represent the SLTT there, but his visa was delayed. I was there in his place, and two other members of the SLTT team were also present for that presentation. I had the privilege of sharing a devotional with the conference attendees. **Please pray** for the work of all the various attending ministries.



TRANSLATION RESOURCES TRAINING (TRT)

We have completed the training that we mentioned in the last newsletter. This alternative approach using a combination of the SLTT and Zoom was very well received. Just today, I saw some testimonies from two TRT team members who shared that some consultants and consultants-in-training (CITs) had noticed improvements in the work coming from translation team leaders who participated in this training. Other participants expressed their gratefulness to have translation resources that were designed in a Deaf way and met their needs.

We did submit a proposal for 2024 to continue this training, but we haven't yet heard back from the funders about their decision. **Please pray** for us as we wait to learn about funding and for wisdom for whichever way the decision ends up being.

Thank you for praying for the provision of funding for the ASL Chronological Bible Translation (ASL CBT) project in 2024. They have received about a third of the funding that they had requested. While it is not what they hoped for, it is a step forward in having more ASL CBT become available for Deaf people in the United States and for translation teams that can benefit from this translation.

The team has completed final drafts of Jonah chapters 1, 3, and 4, and I was able to approve those drafts. The team plans to work on Jonah 2 in January since that chapter is poetry and will be more challenging to translate.

CEDAR

During the Bible Translation Conference, there was a lot of discussion about using more mentoring in how CITs are trained. One of the differences between spoken language consulting and sign language consulting is that spoken language consultants seem to float more between teams helping where needed but sign language consultants typically focus specifically on one or more teams and build a relationship with that team during the translation process. So now we are thinking about how to borrow some of the new mentoring ideas but make them work well in our context.

Please continue to **pray** for the CEDAR team.

GROWING MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS

In 2024, we will be scheduling some visits to share about our ministry in Bible translation. Maybe you know of people who are curious about Bible translation, interested in praying for Bible translation, or who may be interested in financially giving toward Bible translation. Maybe your church, your community group, or your Bible study might be interested in having us share about Bible translation in sign languages. Wherever people are on that continuum, we are happy to share about the need and what God is doing in this area. We believe that part of our ministry is updating the church and believers in general about Bible translation, the current needs, and its role in bringing the gospel to people who need to know Jesus.

FAMILY UPDATE

In October, our family welcomed Eleanor Ruth. We are thankful for a healthy granddaughter.



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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.

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