



## Christmas in Tanzania

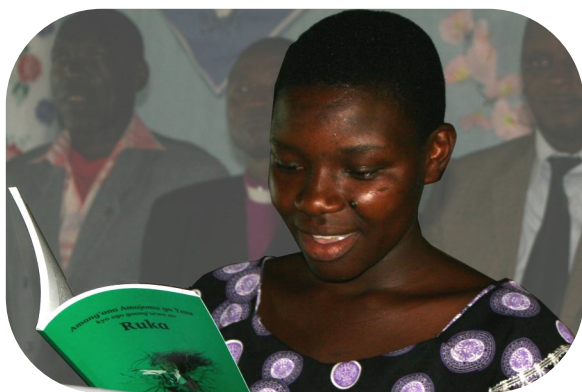
Thank you so much for your prayers and support this past year! We hope you're having a blessed beginning of 2012. (For a "Year in Review" and plans for the coming year, please see page 2.)

Christmas was quiet here in Tanzania. We knew we had a couple of small packages on the way from family, but they didn't arrive in time for Christmas, so the Friday before Christmas I went out looking for anything gift-like I could find in Musoma for Eric's birthday (Dec. 23) or Christmas. I managed to find a dart board at one shop in town, a couple of cheap DVDs, and a pair of dress socks. Eric got me a new day planner and an exercise video, both of which he picked up when he was in the U.S. for his conference in the fall. Since we had bought some things when we were in bigger cities this past year, I put those things under the tree to remind us that we've been blessed with many gifts.

On Christmas day, we picked up Pastor Mago, one of the translators at our office for the Simbiti language. He directed us to a church out in a village about 45 minutes away. There we worshipped with people who speak the Luo or Simbiti languages. In Musoma, we mostly interact with people who can speak Swahili pretty well. At the church in the village, however, we found that some of the people only spoke their local language and needed someone to translate into Swahili for others to understand. Currently, Simbiti speakers only have access to a Bible in Swahili. Won't it be great when they can read or listen to the Bible in a language they can understand?



On Christmas Day, we went to visit the village where one of the translators from our office lives.



A young Kabwa woman reads from the book of Luke in Kabwa for the first time at the dedication service.

## On Bible Translation (Allison)

I'm happy to say that we're making good progress on translating the book of Acts. We have three Jita speakers who do the translation work, and I'm one of the translation advisors (TAs) who meets with them to discuss translation issues and make sure the translation communicates well. I was able to do a significant portion of the translation checking on chapters 15 through 18 of Acts in the fall, but we still needed to sit down together to discuss some of the translation issues. Unfortunately, with different people being sick or on vacation at different times, we went multiple weeks without having enough of us in the office at one time to be able to check these chapters. Finally, in January, after many prayers, we were able to sit down together and talk through some of the issues. Then the translators were able to do a community check for Acts 15-18, going out into Jita villages to test people's understanding of the texts. Next comes the consultant check once we have three more chapters ready. We already have a rough draft for the rest of the book of Acts, but many steps remain before we get to a final draft. Pray for good health for everyone so we can continue to make progress!

While we're making good progress on Acts, we still have work to do before we can publish the book of Luke in Jita. See our next newsletter for more on what needs to happen before it can be published.

### Praise & Prayer

- Praise that we've felt safer at home and haven't had any more security issues.
- Pray for wisdom in planning for the future and that our remaining time here will be productive.

#### Send financial gifts to:



Wycliffe Bible Translators  
P.O. Box 628200  
Orlando, FL 32862-8200

Please affix a note  
saying "for Eric &  
Allison Pyle"

<http://www.wycliffe.org> 1-800-WYCLIFFE, ext 3809

#### Personal Encouragement:

SIL, Attn. Eric & Allison Pyle  
P.O. Box 1235  
Musoma, Tanzania  
(Please email us for mailing info)

<http://www.facebook.com/EricAllisonPyle>

[eric\\_pyle@wycliffe.org](mailto:eric_pyle@wycliffe.org)  
[allison\\_pyle@wycliffe.org](mailto:allison_pyle@wycliffe.org)  
Skype: eric.d.pyle  
Internet Phone: (650)479-5374

## Computer Support (Eric)

Since the regular IT support person for the office returned to the U.S., I have been busy helping out with various computer and internet problems in addition to my regular software development work. I enjoy being able to help people with their problems. However, I couldn't do much about the fact that we were without internet access at the office for almost a month because a line to our part of town was cut. We're happy that things are back to normal now, though!

On the software side, I continue to work to integrate Paratext, translation software from the United Bible Society, with Fieldworks, the linguistics and translation software from SIL, the organization we work with. My major focus lately has been to provide a means for Paratext to send data to Fieldworks. This will provide linguists with easier access to the work of the translators so they can better understand the language and improve the dictionary for each language.

## In our own Backyard

Check out some of the animals we've seen in or around our yard!



Genet



Spectacled Weaver



African Fish Eagles



Monitor Lizard



Rock Hyrax



Kite

## Year in Review

We hope you're enjoying the new year! As we look back over the past year, we can see that we've come a long way.

### Review of 2011:

January - Left the U.S., Orientation in Dar es Salaam, TZ  
February-June - Swahili language school in Iringa  
June - Moved to Musoma  
July - Branch conference and retreat in Kenya  
September - Software conference in the U.S. (Eric)  
October - Book of Luke dedicated in the Ikoma language  
November - Book of Luke dedicated in the Kabwa language  
December - Book of Luke dedicated in the Zanaki language

### Plans for 2012:

February - Dedication planned for Luke in Ikizu  
March - Exegetical Consultant check of Acts 15-21 in Jita  
June - Visitors from Allison's family  
July - Branch conference and retreat in Kenya  
October - Leaving Tanzania to return to the U.S.  
(More details to come...)

Why are we planning to leave Tanzania in October? While our commitment to Wycliffe Bible Translators is long-term, our commitment to our roles in Tanzania is for 2 years. We had hoped to stay through December 2012 for a full two years, but our residence permits expire in October, and it would cost over \$1,000 to renew them, which is a big expense and hassle for staying just 2 more months. Therefore, our current plan is to return to the U.S. in late October, where we will continue to serve with Wycliffe. Please pray for wisdom as we figure out what our roles will be and where we will live in the future. We're not sure yet if we will continue to serve in the U.S., where the rest of Eric's software team is working, or if we will live overseas again in the future. We appreciate your continued prayers and support in the process!