

Hello, family and friends! I hope the summer is going well for you all! I am still in the Yukon.

I am happy to tell you that the work of SIL Tanzania continues, whether in Tanzania, New Zealand, Australia, Germany, the Netherlands, the UK, the USA or Canada. The Mara Cluster, of which I am a part, just reopened its office in Musoma this month, and even before it reopened, our 12 translators - all local Tanzanians - had been continuing their work from home, nearing the completion of three New Testaments. While many of us have had anxiety-inducing questions about the future since early spring, we have some joyful questions for the future as well, such as when and how to present the Ikoma New Testament at a dedication ceremony in Tanzania, and what to include in the celebrations! Two more language communities in the Mara Cluster Project, Kabwa and Suba-Simbiti, will likely face similar questions in the next twelve months.

Regarding COVID-19 in Tanzania, there are still uncertainties and gaps in our information. Our Tanzanian colleagues tell us that people are not dying in droves, however, and some time ago the government reopened borders, schools, markets and the tourism business. The situation is not perfect, but it is sufficiently stable for me and my colleagues to start looking at when and how to go back. We meet online sometimes to discuss it. November or December is looking likely.

As for me, I continue looking for Ikoma words to add to our database. Finding them is often the easy part - next, I break them down, check to see if they (or a related word) are already in the database, and then look for other instances of it in the translated Scriptures. Finally, I fill out the database entry for them, determining the part of speech, noun class (if applicable), plural (if applicable) and the Swahili and English equivalents.

Since I returned from Tanzania, I have also been supporting CanIL with its online orientation and one of its online courses. That course (which is all about literacy programming) will wrap up tomorrow, and next week one of the students is heading to the mission field.

Keep me in your prayers! And thank you for the prayers you have already been offering for me. As much as I enjoy spending time with my family, the uncertainties and adjustments of the past four months have been stressful, and I am looking forward to going back to East Africa and working with colleagues once more.

Thanks, and God Bless,

Nora

Prayer Corner:

Praise God that...

- Work is continuing in Tanzania
- Our colleagues in Tanzania are generally healthy
- The Ikoma New Testament is nearly ready for publication

Ask God that...

- The expat missionaries who serve with SIL Tanzania in Musoma will get their needed work permit renewals (several this year, half a dozen next year)
- The COVID-19 situation in Tanzania stays calm and does not worsen
- My colleagues and myself receive direction (and peace) about when and how to return, and in the meantime wisdom as we interact with our Tanzanian colleagues over long-distance