



Ed and Wilma Rupprecht

The adventure continues! The Rupprechts continue to serve in the mission field where they worked over 24 years ago—Nigeria. The passion to bring the Scriptures to the Ogoja region of Nigeria, draws them to the ministry which was so much part of their early years together. Currently they are working in four Nigerian languages to help create self determining and self sustaining ministries.

Ed and Wilma first met while attending the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) in Norman, Oklahoma in the summer of 1968. Ed was home on furlough from Nigeria where he was serving with the LCMS-Mission Board. Wilma had returned from Mexico where she had served as a short-term missionary with Wycliffe Bible Translators. They were married in February 1969 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, N.Ukele, Nigeria.

Ed grew up in Richville, Michigan. At a young age, he felt God calling him to mission service. After attending Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw, Michigan, he attended Concordia, River Forest. His call took him to Nigeria to work among the Ukele people where he served for 18 years. Ed was part of a team working on translating the New Testament into the Kukele language. Ed's role was literacy and education.

Wilma was born in Montana where her dad was the pastor of a small Indian mission church. Missions has always been a part of her life. After attending Grace University in Omaha, she went to California to work. While there she heard about the need for typists in Mexico City with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Her experience in Mexico made her realize that God wanted her to go to SIL for further training.

In Nigeria Ed and Wilma served together for over 13 years in literacy, adult education and rural development. In 1982 they returned to the United States. Ed received his Masters Degree from Concordia, River Forest in 1983. He has taught in Lutheran schools, congregations and organizations and worked in development, mobilizing others for the Great Commission, all in Northern Illinois. 43 years in Christ's service!

Wilma has served by using her gifts in various church activities—LWML, choir, and Stephens Ministry. She has worked in the corporate world as Administrative Assistant and at the LBT Service Center.

The Rupprechts have two children, both born in Nigeria, and five grandchildren. Paul, and his wife Noel of New York, are the parents of Brittany and Rebekah. Kim, and her husband Paul Klomhaus, are the parents of Aaron, Nathan and Holly and live in Wisconsin.

God is never done! Ed and Wilma have felt God calling them back to the mission field and at a time when LBT has work in the field of Scripture Use and Vernacular Media. Your prayers are cherished and welcome in a special partnership in this ministry.

Lutheran Bible Translators Mission Statement

The mission of Lutheran Bible Translators is to help bring people to faith in Jesus Christ by making the Word of God available to those who do not yet have it in the language of their hearts.

Vision Statement

Lutheran Bible Translators is committed to the Scriptures as God's primary means for bringing about life-changing encounters with Jesus Christ. To be effective, the Word of God must be accessible in a language and media that people most readily comprehend. These core beliefs shape our vision, expressed in four facets, that:

- * People around the world are meaningfully engaged by the message of the Scriptures through translations and related materials. The translations are
 - Accurate and faithful to the original texts,
 - Beautiful in their use of the receptor languages, and
 - Clear in expressing the Biblical message.

The Scriptures and related materials engage the users by addressing their day-to-day needs and concerns – leading to transformed lives.

- * International partners have the vision and capacity to carry out all possible aspects of Bible translation projects. National churches, especially Lutheran, are motivated and fully equipped to use vernacular Scriptures in their ministries of Christian growth and outreach.

- * Lutheran Bible Translators personnel and international colleagues work together in a spirit of Christian love and partnership – in an atmosphere in which each person's contribution is valued.

- * A well-equipped, empowered and encouraged LBT team is recognized for professional competence, innovative approaches in Bible translation and facilitating the development of effective programs for using God's Word.

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