



# News from the Robertsons

## Wycliffe Personnel Work

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Dear friends and partners in Bible translation, In order to give you an update on our service with Wycliffe Bible Translators, first, for those who love facts and figures: I am currently working with 12 individuals who have sent their applications in to join Wycliffe and 26 new Wycliffe Prefield members. I have taken 14 individuals through the application process in the past 6 months, each application takes 40-60 hours of work. 11 of those were accepted as new members of Wycliffe. By the time you receive this newsletter, I will

have released 13 new Wycliffe missionaries to their assignments in places like Cameroon, Papua, Indonesia, Philippines, recruiters at JAARS and Atlanta, and a couple to translation in a place that is too sensitive to name. I've spent 2 years or more with each of these new missionaries as I have been coordinating their orientation and training, helping them raise a financial and prayer partnership team, obtaining an assignment that fits their skills and gifts, and aiding in processing their work permits and visa paperwork and purchasing plane tickets. These tasks all take someone to



*Matt & Breanna, one of our applicant couples, with Debbie last week in Orlando*

hold their hands, encourage, coordinate things, search for the right assignments, and just be their servant/leader in many ways. This is an exciting time for all of these new missionaries and it blesses me greatly to be a part of their excitement at the prospects of serving God in such a huge task as Bible translation.

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## Ministering to the Whole Person

I'm excited about a couple with whom I worked through this whole process a couple of years ago before I finally released them to go to Uganda. We really grew to love this couple, Terrill & Amber, as I processed Terrill's application first as a single guy who wanted to go

to the hardest place in the world and work as part of a "SWAT" team in difficult places. Then he met Amber, who softened him a bit and after he married her I worked with her through her application process and then as new Prefield members training to be a Bible Translator/Nurse

combination. Between Linguistic studies and courtship and marriage, etc, I worked with them 3 years and met them and shared meals with them. He was one of the first people assigned to me as his Personnel Administrator. Recently the Presi-

dent of Wycliffe USA wrote this story about them:

Two weeks ago, a small team of us from Wycliffe USA spent a few days with Terrill and Amber Schrock in Uganda. They recently began work with the Ik people, who live in the northeastern corner of the country, on the edge of the Rift Valley. Terrill is doing language development while Amber supports him through healthcare and community development projects.

When I first met them, Amber was providing healthcare in the back of a storage building behind their current home in Kaabong. She tells me she usually sees 30 people each day, three times a week, but sometimes she sees up to 60 patients in a single day. If a patient is too sick to come to Amber's clinic, she goes and picks them up and takes them to a hospital. One evening two of our team members—videographer

Jon Shuler and Wycliffe Africa member Lydia Teera—rode along with Amber while she picked up a woman in labor, rushed her to the hospital, and helped deliver a healthy baby!

Why does Amber do this work? She says she wants to bless people. "My Dad taught us that one way to follow God was through serving other people. After high school, I pursued a career that would let me minister to people's physical needs," she explains. She also sees her service as a way of gaining acceptance into the Ik community. She believes that providing basic healthcare and identifying publicly with the Ik people will help Terrill and her establish rapport with them. Beyond that, she recognizes the validity of ministering to the whole person. "We really do believe that people need to meet basic needs before they will be open to Bible translation," she says. "They are thinking about hunger, shelter—

not, 'Who is this man named Jesus?' Once these basic needs are met, then the Ik people will start thinking, 'Who is God?'

When we received the story above we were so proud of Terrill and Amber... almost as if they were our own kids . . .



*Terrill & Amber with the Rift Valley as their backdrop.*

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### *Family Corner*

While we are here in beautiful East Tennessee, **Debbie** is helping with the care of her mom and dad. She also continues to work on her courses at Southern Evangelical Seminary, has just completed another and is over half done. Debbie and I co-teach a small group for Sunday School and I lead a Men's group on Wed. nights. Our eld-

est, **Brian**, turned 33 on June 3. He was in the group of 5000 who were laid off at IBM, so he is using this time to work on a project that will complete his dual MS/MBA degree at NYU. **Nathan** and his wife **Krista** live in Duluth, GA where he is close to finishing up his certificate in Guitar after which they have decided to move

to the Raleigh area. He hopes to get some teaching opportunities there as well as play in a group. **Noelle and Brian Patterson** continue to live in Charlotte, NC, where Brian works for an architectural consulting firm while Noelle works and goes to school to finish her Para-legal degree.

*Thanks so much for your partnership in this work of Bible translation. It is a work that has such a great impact on the lives of so many. We appreciate each of you. If you feel led to join our partnership team, write to the Wycliffe Address on the bottom left or donate thru our website at the left.*

  
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*Love,  
Phil & Debbie*