

# The Rupprecht Email Update and Prayer Letter

May 2, 2011

Scripture Use Ministry to Nigeria!

Vol. 7 No. 3



## Home

It is hard to believe. We're home! All we remember is a blur. Farewells, late night finishing of two publications and a trip to the printer on the way through Ogoja on the way out, quick farewells to friends in Jos, quick change of tickets, election and internal



travel concerns (thankfully unfounded as it turned out), Digby concerns, (it turned out it was easier getting our pup INTO the US then it was getting him OUT of Nigeria). We arrived in the afternoon of Tuesday, April 26 and were welcomed by my Wilma's sister Millie. Very nice, very welcome. **We give thanks for good and safe travels. For easy transit through airports, even for Digby.**



## How does one say 'good bye'?

A very difficult time was had by all. We feel so blest, by the many well wishers from our mission coworkers and mission family to our friends and coworkers in so many languages and so many churches. Indeed the



many friends were more than kind. We do hope that there will be a way to return for a visit some time in the future. **We thank God for the many friends that have blessed our lives over the years while in Nigeria. We pray**



**God's blessings on them as they continue in ministry and pray that our friendships will endure.**

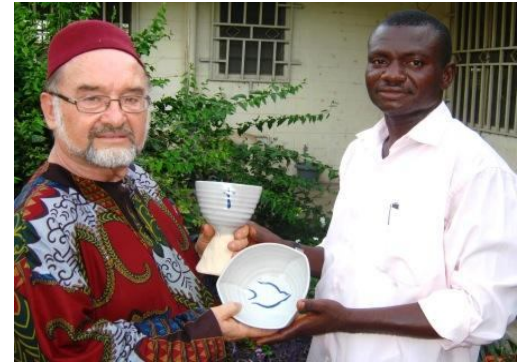
**In Pictures:** Yala Language Council; Mission family; Mbe Clan Head; Best Friend Josephine; Roman Catholic Bishop and Lutheran Bishop

## Did someone say 'work'?

Till the night before we left, Ed was still working on an 'Order of Worship' for the Kukele Lutheran Church. The final proof was returned to him just two days prior to our departure date. Ouch! We were able to drop it and the Yala Transfer Primer at the printers on our way through Ogoja on our trip to Jos. **We give thanks that by God's Grace almost all the documents that we had committed to finish for printing were completed. We pray that Ed will be able to finish the remaining documents using email capabilities.**

## Almost Peaceful Elections

We think we really know how to pick travel times. NOT! Well, it was not our plan to keep moving the election period so that they would coincide with our travel plans. Elections, Local, State and National were to have been held over three weekends and to be completed in February. As it turned out they were postponed until the end of April. We give thanks for minimal dislocations and violence, although there was some. In Ogoja, people could hardly believe that their vote actually counted. So many people were not going to vote, so we really encouraged them to do so. They (and we) are grateful that they did.



Presenting a fairwell gift, communion ware, to Pastor Matthew Wonah, Superintendent of the Yala Circuit. The Communion Ware is a gift from the youth of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Addison, IL

There was some concern that the borders, including State borders might be closed for the final week of elections. That prompted us to move up our travel days—and we actually got the dates. The plane from Nigeria was jammed so we figure we must have gotten the last seats. **We thank God for credible elections in Nigeria and pray for God's blessings on the elected leaders. We pray for peace as the leadership charts new directions for Nigeria.**



## And One More Huge Blessing

As it turned out, with travel plans, etc, etc (AND by God's design) we were able to be in Jos for Easter AND the baptism of Wilma's most recent namesake. Wilma Egbang Ayugha was born by C Section last November 4th to our good friends Rev. Kierien and Charity. Rev. K is also a huge supporter

of the Bokyi language work and a scholarship student in linguistics and Bible Translation. **We pray for God's blessings on Baby Wilma and entrust her to God's care and the care of her parents. We pray for Rev. Kierien as he continues his preparation to return to language and translation ministry.**

## Now the tough question. . .

. . . now what? We recognize that our physical limitations will prevent us from continuing our ministry in Nigeria. We are, however, seeking God's leading and guidance in continuing in some kind of ministry with LBT. It looks like it will be on a part time basis and will probably have something to do with sharing the fabulous story and ministry opportunities of translating the Holy Scriptures. We consider such an opportunity a huge blessing. Mainly because there is no better story to tell. And there is no better organization to be associated with. This also means that we really still need and desire your partnership, your prayer, your gifts, your support.

We also recognize, that we need to and WANT to spend more time with our children and grandchildren. (THAT will NOT be a hardship assignment!) We pray for guidance and wisdom in determining future directions for ministry. We pray that God will guide us in determining our status, whether we call it 'retirement', 'retreading', 'redirecting' or . . .

## Continued Concerns for Ministry

1. We give thanks for safe travel and pray for God's guidance in determining future ministry opportunities for us, now that we will be resident in the US.
2. Give thanks for increased responsibility for funding in the Yala and Ukele Old Testament language projects and committees:
3. Give thanks for the print projects completed, the Kukele, Bokyi and Yala Transfer Primers and the Ekajuk, Kukele and Yala Orders of Worship for the Lutheran Church. We pray that the Ekpari Catechism and Order of Worship can be completed and that the Yala and Kukele Dictionary Projects can be continued.
4. Pray for the six languages that will undertake the Jesus Film Project in the next few months. May God guide them through the scripting and production phases.
5. Thanksgiving for the huge success of the Scripture Use/Engagement Workshop that was conducted in March, that it went smoothly and that the participants are invited to repeat additional workshops for other clergy and church workers in the area.
6. Pray that God would prosper the literacy efforts that can now proceed in Yala, Bokyi and Kukele since the Transfer Primers have been completed
7. We thank all our praying and financially supporting partners for providing the resources necessary to accomplish the work here in Nigeria.
8. Pray for continued peace and reconciliation in Jos and the Northern parts of Nigeria among the Muslim and Christian communities.

Blessings in Christ,

*Ed & Mirna*



Please TALK to us!!

## The Electronic Rupprechts

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Find us on Skype

### By mail:

Please send any personal mail to the LBT address below - do not send any mail to Nigeria.

### To support the Rupprecht Ministry:

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Aurora, IL 60507-2050

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