

Training the Next Generation

News from the Jefferys

**Dear
Friends,
March 2024**

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying longer days and warmer temperatures. Here in the Lower Mainland warmer temperatures have been slow in coming, but the gardens and birdlife are behaving like we've turned a corner into spring.

Spring is synonymous with new life and that reminds me that I have a new family member to introduce. Sophia Marian VanderMeer was born on Jan. 17th, the day of our one big snowstorm this winter. She weighed 7 lbs--such a tiny bundle. Once she got over a bit of jaundice that sapped her energy she had no problem nursing and is now packing on the pounds.



The GriefShare program I began attending last fall came to an end on Jan. 30th. The ladies' sharing group was a big blessing. We exchanged contact information with one another the last time we gathered and have since met for lunch. Our plan is to continue getting together monthly for fellowship.

I should also update you on Miriam who stayed with me for a month last fall. She had plans in place to return to her family in Nebraska on Dec. 9th, but she ended up flying home on Nov. 22nd. On the 30th her new doctor broke the news to her that there was nothing more that could be done to treat her cancer. She went on palliative care in her sister's home and passed away on Dec. 7th.

On the Work Front

The annual celebration of CanIL's named awards for our Launch students took place this past Tuesday. Miriam Parrish was the recipient of this third granting of the Dave Jeffery Memorial Award. Miriam hopes to work with Pioneer Bible Translators and is particularly interested in promoting Scripture use. Translated Scriptures are of little good to a people group unless they are incorporated into their daily life. Miriam strikes me as someone who will be gifted in such a role.

Recruitment is underway for our Summer Term intake of new students. So far 46 applications have been received, 21 of which have been accepted. 20 more are in the pipeline and will be reviewed at the beginning of April. The remaining five applicants are deferring coming to CanIL this year, or have cancelled their applications altogether.

When I last wrote, discussions were beginning regarding the possibility of CanIL Library merging with the main library on campus. A memorandum of agreement has since been signed and a plan is in place for making the transfer of CanIL Library to its new home. So far, about 30 percent of CanIL's books have been transferred to TWU's Norma Marion Alloway Library. I send two batches of books (about 150 books per batch) to Alloway each week. The books are being moved in the wooden boxes that were used to bring the original library to Canada in the 1940s! The advantage of using these boxes is that they make it possible for the books to be transported in proper shelf order, simplifying their handling for both libraries.



I am finding this process of merger to be quite intense and sometimes stressful. I am working on my own to keep a team of people at Alloway supplied with books to be catalogued into their database. I must postpone dealing with

books that relate to courses currently being taught so that they remain available to CanIL faculty and students. Certain of our books will remain at CanIL so I need to identify those and hold onto them. The books that TWU rejects are being returned to me and also need to be dealt with. They will be offered to CanIL faculty for their office libraries and some may go to our sister school, Tyndale University, in Toronto. Others will be donated to Better World Books and local thrift stores, and those in poorest shape will be recycled. No more working from home; my three work days per week are now spent at CanIL.

Items for Prayer and Praise:

- **CanIL**; that it will continue to provide excellent linguistic expertise through its alumni to language projects around the world.
- Creative solutions to keep CanIL's training programs and recruitment efforts adequately funded and strong are leading to **collaboration with Wycliffe Canada** (now providing CanIL's HR services) **and with Trinity Western University** (caring for CanIL's Library and sharing their new VP of Administration with us).
- **Annual campaign fundraising goals for student scholarships**; exceeded!
- **Year-end loss forecast**; well below the deficit that was budgeted. A major donor is considering reducing the actual deficit even further.
- **Summer Term students**; that many more good candidates will submit applications and be approved for our summer session, and that they will enter one of our Masters-level programs in the fall.
- **Wycliffe U.S.** is selling its Orlando property in an effort to downsize. Pray for a buyer, and for wisdom regarding where to relocate, plus suitable new quarters.
- **I have changed my retirement date to August 31st so that I can see the library merger through to completion.** Pray for stamina and clear-thinking and that patrons of both libraries will continue to be well-served.

Jesus is risen! Come, Lord Jesus!



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Cheques should be made payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators. Kindly attach a separate note specifying "for the ministry of Susan Jeffery".