

Bible-Based Funeral Rituals

New Christian Services for the *Shi Bring Hope in Christ

Traditional *Shi funeral rituals have been practiced for generations. Elaborate ceremonies considered essential for the spirit of the deceased to be at rest.

New *Shi Christians hope in Christ, not ritual. *Shi house church leaders pleaded early this year, “We need help to do a Christian funeral...and Bible verses in our language so those who come to the funeral of a Christian understand what Christians believe”

*New *Shi Christians hope in Christ, not ritual.*

*Shi colleagues Mr. S and Mr. P spent three months under the guidance of a consultant studying and translating Scripture passages about resurrection and eternal life. Alongside house church leaders they also drafted songs and a simple liturgy. Pray this Scripture service will bring comfort, dispel fear, and witness to the community.

*Pseudonyms used due to a sensitive location



Lutheran Bible
Translators

PO Box 789
Concordia, MO 64020



2026

August

PRAYER CALENDAR



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- 1.** Pray Nutrition and Wellness Advisor Valerie Federwitz will experience fruitful work and good health, especially as she celebrates her birthday today.
- 2.** Pray for God's guidance and wisdom for the board of directors nominating committee as they prepare for the fall 2026 election.
- 3.** Pray for Holy Spirit-led direction for the REV79 program management workshop and strategic planning taking in Tanzania this week.
- 4.** Pray for stamina for the Nathan and Sarah Federwitz family during their orientation course focusing on language and cultural learning. *(PNG)*
- 5.** Pray for godly wisdom for Kara Kuhn in her role as West Africa data coordinator, especially as she celebrates her birthday tomorrow.
- 6.** Pray for the Lord to renew and strengthen Ruthie Wagner in her consultant training, especially as she celebrates her birthday today.
- 7.** Praise God for volunteers from Christ Lutheran who transported missionary families to and from the airport for the annual Concordia Mission Institute Conference.
- 8.** Pray for Bible translation needs to become clear for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea (ELC-PNG) during the multilingual assessment tool evaluation workshop.
- 9.** Pray for joy and health for the Nathan Federwitz family as they spend two weeks living in a village with a family for cultural and language immersion starting tomorrow. *(PNG)*
- 10.** Pray for the favor of the Lord to rest on Executive Director Rich Rudowske, especially as he celebrates his birthday today.

- 11.** Pray for wisdom and discernment for the Waria Cluster Project as they make plans for translation work, community Scripture engagement, and training for translators. *(PNG)*
- 12.** Pray for good electricity, internet, health, communication and God's wisdom for Jim Kaiser and the Kono team checking over their translation of Ezekiel. *(Sierra Leone)*
- 13.** Pray for ministry opportunities and safety for missionaries serving in sensitive locations in SE Asia.
- 14.** Pray for organizers and participants to have fruitful conversations and determine a clear path forward at the *Psalms that Sing* workshop hosted by the ELC – PNG.
- 15.** Pray for Bennett Frazier to be filled with the Spirit of God and wisdom especially as he celebrates his birthday tomorrow.
- 16.** Pray for the God of all peace and comfort to rest on Katie Hogan, especially as she celebrates her birthday today.
- 17.** Pray for good electricity, internet, health, communication, and God's wisdom for Jim Kaiser and the Tsamakko team during translation checking. *(Ethiopia)*
- 18.** Pray for smooth transitions and a wonderful academic year for students and teachers returning to school.
- 19.** Pray for the *Shi team as they transition from oral Bible stories to a written translation of the Gospel of Luke. *(SE Asia)*
- 20.** Praise God for women in mission (LWML) across the country who voted to support Lutheran Bible Translators' ministry through grants and mite offerings.
- 21.** Pray for health and balance for Mathias Gesengsu as he organizes workshops for Bible Translation ministry and begins University studies. *(PNG)*

- 22.** Pray for the *Shi team as they train a core group of people to be literacy teachers. *(SE Asia)*
- 23.** Pray for smooth processes for all missionaries, staff, and partners waiting on paperwork for passports, visas, and other important documentation needed to do their work.
- 24.** Praise God the Maan Bible is being sent to the printer. Pray the Dan Bible will soon follow. *(Liberia)*
- 25.** Praise God for Waria Cluster project leaders Bethuel, Job, Kepa, and Nonege. Pray for health, wisdom, energy, family, and protection. *(PNG)*
- 26.** Pray for safety and supernatural strength for translation contexts where work is interrupted due to weather emergencies or threatened safety.
- 27.** Praise God for Mpoki Jafari's love for God and Scripture as he faithfully uses his gifts to serve five languages in Tanzania.
- 28.** Pray for blessing over the school year for students and teachers in the Linguistics and Bible Translation Department – Theological College of Northern Nigeria.
- 29.** Praise God for LBT staff dedicated to researching careful, considered, and community-based implementation of AI tools and strategies.
- 30.** Praise God the *Shi literacy primer has been completed along with over 30 easy-reader booklets. *(SE Asia)*
- 31.** Pray for God's provision so the Yala translation team may have the entire Bible ready for typesetting by the end of 2026. *(Nigeria)*

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