

Dear friends,

How was 2023 for you? Our attached newsletter summarizes our past year and future plans. We are also attaching several photos of ourselves and some of the family we have been interacting with. There are recent pictures of Edie and Rob, of Trey, Sarah and little Janie Tones, and in one photo (front row) Jamey Dye, Shannon's fiancé Tim, Shannon, Kendra Dunlap, and Cheryl Dye. In back, grandsons Matt Dye and Justin Dunlap.

We would love to hear more from you. Our best emails are wayne_dye@diu.edu and sally_dye@diu.edu.

Cell phones and street address unchanged:

Wayne 214-693-0919 Sally 972-533-9555.
75249

7964 Glenway Drive, Dallas TX

Wayne and Sally Dye

Our Wycliffe address, (since Wycliffe still forwards earmarked gifts):

Wycliffe Bible Translators

P. O. Box 628200,

Orlando, FL 32862-8200

or go to the website wycliffe.org.

(Since we are retirees now, you will need to click on the Give tab and then specify "retirement account of Wayne Dye")

We wish you a meaningful new year! Thank you so much for praying and supporting us in other ways through 2023. We are excited to tell you that the worldwide Bible translation movement that we have been part of has reached some wonderful milestones. The translation part is the easiest to measure:

- From 1999-2003, an average of 64 new language engagements began each year worldwide.
- From 2004 through the worst of the covid-19 epidemic about 90 new projects were started each year.
- As the pandemic ended, and with a number of new initiatives in place, there were more than 400 new translation projects last year, for a total of almost 3000 current projects.

If this rate continues, translation projects will begin in ALL of the language groups still needing Bibles by 2027. That is only 2 years behind the goal Wycliffe set in 1999, that all projects would be started by 2025. In 1999, that goal took our breath away. Most of the new workers are from the countries where Bible translation is needed. Fewer and fewer are, or need to be, Americans or Europeans. The Christian church is a world church; God is moving His people everywhere and many are responding. Scripture engagement is an integral part of this new growth. We are seeing more people, more innovation, and more Bible impact in countries all over the world. Remember the emphasis Jesus put on what would happen when the whole world had heard the gospel message (Matt 24:12-14.)

My own part now, is to be a senior advisor, attend DIU meetings monthly, sit in on SE committees, counsel people personally, and sometimes write papers. I am able to continue to help steer the younger workers in a productive direction. Most new initiatives and ideas are coming from workers we had a part in training and who are now training hundreds of SE workers. This is a far better outcome than we had even hoped for, but God made it happen. Now I can take a much smaller role. Sally continues to do her part, keeping me fed and our home functioning, and provide hospitality, hiring students to help when needed. We are deeply grateful to you who have had a part in praying for us, supporting us financially or helping in other ways. God has enabled us all.

We had planned several trips last year. We wanted to visit friends in Michigan, family and friends in California, and speak at a conference in Orlando. Instead, I (Wayne) had a heart valve replacement with side-effects. We are both challenged by lack of energy, arthritis and other old age limitations, along with covid and a shortage of funds. We spend significant time driving to doctor's offices, physical therapy and a gym. Nevertheless, we feel Jesus' purpose and presence in the comfortable home God provided us near the Wycliffe center. We are surrounded by many long-time coworkers, friends, a very personal prayer support group and a few close family members who gather with us for holidays and birthdays.

We hope to attend our grand-daughter's wedding in California in March. We will try again to go to Michigan after that. We are blessed to have five great grandchildren now, but only Sarah's daughter Janie lives near enough to see her frequently. She sure brightens our days. We are happy to tell you that both Edie and Jamey continue to publish books. Jamey has been particularly busy putting out books on how God works. Both of them are writing to help people enter into and grow in Christian faith. Search on Amazon for "Edie Bakker" and "Jamey Dye" to see those books. Jamey also has a blog: <https://lifeontherocklife.wordpress.com/>

In His joy,
Wayne and Sally Dye



