



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Literacy & Evangelism
INTERNATIONAL

"The book will be given to the one who cannot read, saying, "Read this, please." And he will say, "I cannot read." | ISAIAH 29:12 AMP

- Established 1967 -

THE MISSION

THE STRATEGY

Literacy & Evangelism International (LEI) equips the Church to share the message of Jesus Christ through the gift of reading.

- We develop Bible-content materials to teach basic reading in local languages and conversational English.
- We train church leaders and missionaries to use LEI materials for evangelism, discipleship, and church planting.
- We develop partnerships to expand the mission of LEI.



LEI PRESIDENT: DR. SID RICE

Dear Shareholders:

This past year, a woman from Togo, West Africa, commented, “My life has started anew since I learned to read. Literacy has brought light to my life.” This is one of thousands of transformation stories echoing Jesus’ words, “I am the... light that gives life.” (John 8:12 CEV)



The Lord continues to transform people’s lives as Literacy & Evangelism International (LEI) uses the socially-critical skill of reading to share the message of Jesus Christ.

In 2019, Literacy & Evangelism International and our Partner Nation network continued our global leadership role in Bible-content literacy, leveraging resources in over 265 languages sharing the LIGHT that only Jesus can bring. This included expanding the treasure chest of Bible-content resources with the creation of new primers (basic readers) in Bono (Ghana), and Dendi (Benin); updating/finalizing primers in Ebembe (DR Congo), Ga (Ghana), Lokpa (Benin), and Maasai (Kenya).

The L&E Member Nation network saw expansion with two new members in Africa, hitting a strategic milestone in that all former national African missionaries are now reporting to one of the following Africa Member Nation partners: L&E Benin, L&E DR Congo, L&E Ghana, L&E Kenya, L&E Malawi, L&E Nigeria, and L&E Togo.

We continued our rhythm of training with the 39th annual International Literacy Training Institute on our Tulsa campus. This signature event has global impact with participants joining us from around the world. To augment what we can do with in-person training, our digital footprint also continues to expand.

Due to your faithful support, God’s Word is continuing to bring the life-giving light of Jesus’ love to the nations through the mission of Literacy & Evangelism International. May God richly bless you for your faithfulness.

Always your grateful brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sid Rice". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Dr. Sid Rice

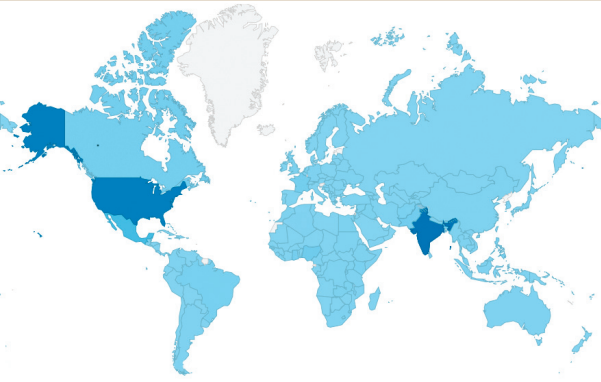
EXPANDING RESOURCES TO THE NATIONS

With NEW ONLINE, DISTANCE-LEARNING COURSES

LEI WEBSITE: “FRONT DOOR” TO THE WORLD

IN 2019 LEI RECORDED:

- INCREASE OF 6,308 NEW VIEWS
- 37% INCREASE IN COUNTRY PARTICIPATION
- INDIVIDUALS FROM 184 COUNTRIES VISITED LEI'S WEBSITE
- PATRONS FOUND 215 DIGITALLY-AVAILABLE PRIMERS
- 516 PRIMERS DOWNLOADED AT NO CHARGE



Global map depicts 184 countries around the world that visited the LEI website January 1-December 31, 2019.

Light blue represents lower usage, dark blue represents higher usage.

VIEW ALL OF LEI'S ONLINE TRAININGS:

www.literacyevangelism.org/get-involved/training

ONLINE LEARNING | IMPACT TESTIMONIAL

Emmanuela, an online literacy student in Ghana

“Adults, including nursing mothers, travel... from various regions of Ghana to the capital city to make ends meet, but due to being illiterate are unable to find any job.” Literacy brings hope, giving skills that open doors to better opportunities for all learners.

CELEBRATING NEW MISSION MEMBERS

PENNY FETTERS (2019 ILTI GRADUATE)

LEI is delighted to welcome our newest missionary, Penny Feters. Penny is joining LEI as an Overseas Literacy Consultant in Latin America. Penny is from West Palm Beach, Florida, and has recently retired from the US Postal Service after 33 years. Serving the Lord since the age of 14, she has desired to spread the gospel to the nations and started taking mission trips in her 20s. Penny has a Master's of Linguistics and has studied Spanish, French, and Portuguese. We are pleased that Penny has chosen to join the LEI team and look forward to seeing all that our Lord accomplishes through her willing spirit.



DUANE BLANKENSHIP JOINS LEI PUBLICATIONS TEAM

Duane graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a BFA degree in advertising design, a minor in product design, and has enjoyed a lifetime career in advertising. After working on the client side of the desk for 29 years, he started his own advertising business in 1993. Though semi-retired, Duane remains active in advertising, enjoys hunting, fishing, leather work, and doing black and white pencil drawings. Duane and Janice have been married 53 years, are active in their church and community, have two grown sons and one four-year-old grandson. We welcome Duane to the LEI publications team.



CELEBRATING LONGEVITY



ANA BIEDERMAN
25 years' service with LEI



CAREY JO JOHNSTON
30 years' service with LEI



PATTY HICKMAN
35 years' service with LEI

THE MEMBER NATION

LITERACY & EVANGELISM (L&E) exists to equip the church to share the message of Jesus Christ through the gift of reading. The Member Nation partners' strategy expands this mission by promoting the creation and growth of indigenous, autonomous, country-specific organizations that embrace the mission and vision of Literacy & Evangelism International.

A "Member Nation" is Literacy & Evangelism incorporated in a given country; it is an organization doing literacy and/or English language ministry aligned with a global network of like-minded organizations. Each Member Nation has an independent local board. It agrees with and uses the LEI mission statement and agrees with and uses the L&E covenant commitment, statement of faith, and core values (or an approved culturally appropriate adaptation, consistent with the spirit of the LEI mission).

With limited oversight from the Member Nation Council, each group develops its own organization, board, and funding. Ten L&E Member Nations make up the team at present. These include L&E: Benin, Brazil, Canada, DR Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Togo, and USA. With these dedicated Member Nation partners, literacy ministry is expanded to grow and flourish worldwide.

NEW MEMBER NATION PARTNERS

L&E DR CONGO, AFRICA. Rev. Nzongo Sila-Ndunda (2011 ILTI Graduate) leads L&E DR Congo. Rev. Sila is no newcomer to LEI. His literacy evangelism journey is a long and productive one, having started in the 1980s assisting LEI founder, Dr. Robert F. Rice and LEI missionaries Allen and Joan Lovekin. A French speaker, Rev. Sila speaks English and a number of local African languages fluently. Sila translated the Bible into the Lingala language and has been instrumental in planting churches, teaching people to read, and leading thousands of people to Christ. In 2013, Rev. Sila received the "Missionary of Distinction" award presented by LEI President Sid Rice for Rev. Sila's longtime commitment to serving our Lord through literacy evangelism ministry.



L&E TOGO, AFRICA. David Nabine (2012 ILTI Graduate) leads L&E Togo. Born in Bassar, Togo, a Francophone country in western Africa, David is an IT specialist, computer scientist, and graduate in law. For many years, he devoted his time to working in the Bible Translation Department of the Bible Society. Under David's direction, L&E Togo provides literacy classes for the vulnerable illiterate population living mostly in rural communities. The strategy is to train a team of literacy workers to target identified zones. L&E Togo

focuses work in three languages. Ewe - Literacy primers have been constructed and printed. Kabyè - Literacy classes have started in collaboration with Brother Danga. N'cam - L&E Togo plans this primer construction project in the near future.

PRIMER CONSTRUCTION

AFRICA

A. (Ethiopia)	Final Edit
Asante Twi (Ghana)	Printed
Bono (Ghana)	Final Edit
Chichewa (Malawi)	Revision
Dendi (Benin)	Final Edit
Epie (Nigeria)	Complete
Ébembe (DR Congo)	Final Edit
Esahie (Ghana)	Complete
Ewe (Ghana)	Complete
Fon (Benin)	Complete
Kagulu (Tanzania)	Final Edit
Lokpa (Benin)	Revision
Luganda (Uganda)	Complete
LuSamia (Uganda)	Complete
Maasai (Kenya)	Revision
Mfantse (Ghana)	Complete
Samburu (Kenya)	Final Edit

ASIA

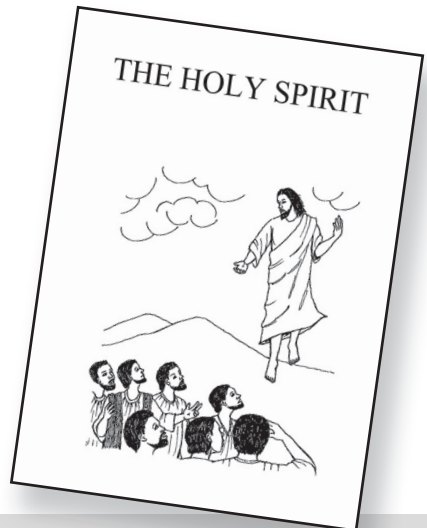
Magahi (India)	Final Edit
Korean (Korea)	Revision Printed

EUROPE

Greek (Greece)	Printed
Ukrainian (Ukraine)	Complete

86 LEI post-primer booklets, called shell books, are available in English for translation into other languages. These LEI shell books are hosted on www.bloomlibrary.org/browse and can be easily accessed by using the KEY PHRASE “Literacy International.”

Pictured is the cover of the shell book, *The Holy Spirit*, by Allen and Joan Lovekin.



PRIMER CONSTRUCTION BONO LANGUAGE

Bono is a language spoken by more than 1,050,000 people in Central Ghana, Africa. In March 2019, L&E Ghana's Programs Manager, Nat Nunoo, led a team of translators, staff, and volunteers from the Bible Society of Ghana and L&E Ghana



Bono Primer Construction Team, Ghana

to construct Bible-content primers for teaching and learning to read the Bono language. The primer construction took place from March 5-21, in Accra, and was sponsored by the Bible Society of Ghana.


The LEI primer format is consistent from lesson to lesson. When trainees learn to teach Lesson 1, they know how to teach all other lessons in the primer. This is important as teachers and tutors may not be professional teachers and may have limited education themselves. To keep the primer lessons simple, the LEI method

carefully controls the introduction of new words and letters beginning with Lesson 1. Starting in Lesson 12, the name of Jesus is introduced. This allows the writers to create short stories about Jesus for the rest of Book 1. Book 2 has arithmetic, health/agriculture lessons, and 36 carefully translated, easy-to-read Bible stories.


Two pages of the Bono Language Primer, Lesson 12, are illustrated here.

LEI primers usually introduce the word "Jesus" in Lesson 12, followed by short stories about Jesus or God.

Adesua 12 (y, Y, Ny)



Yesu	Ye	e
Ye	e	e



yoma	yo	o
yo	o	o

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yoma Yesu ba

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yoma bi nam asuo he ho.
 yoma he so. yoma he so sono nam.
 yoma he so nana nam? dabi, anane nam.
 yoma he de nam he aba anane ho.
 ama nim anane yoma he.

Yesu nim anane, ama ne abena.
 Yesu ne Nyame ba he.
 Yesu do ama, anane ne abena.
 anane, abena ne ama do Yesu.
 Yesu ma anane, ama ne abena anidasoo.

Mateo 19:24

Nyame dabi anidasoo

LITERACY TEACHER-TRAINING WORKSHOPS

AFRICA

Total Teachers Trained: **1,364**

LATIN AMERICA

Total Teachers Trained: **309**

ASIA

Total Teachers Trained: **7,085**

NORTH AMERICA

Total Teachers Trained: **39**

EUROPE

Total Teachers Trained: **54**

UNDISCLOSED REGIONS

Total Teachers Trained: **239**

WORLDWIDE

**TOTAL TEACHERS
TRAINED: 9,090**

**TOTAL NEW BIBLE
READERS: 54,521**

NEW BIBLE READERS

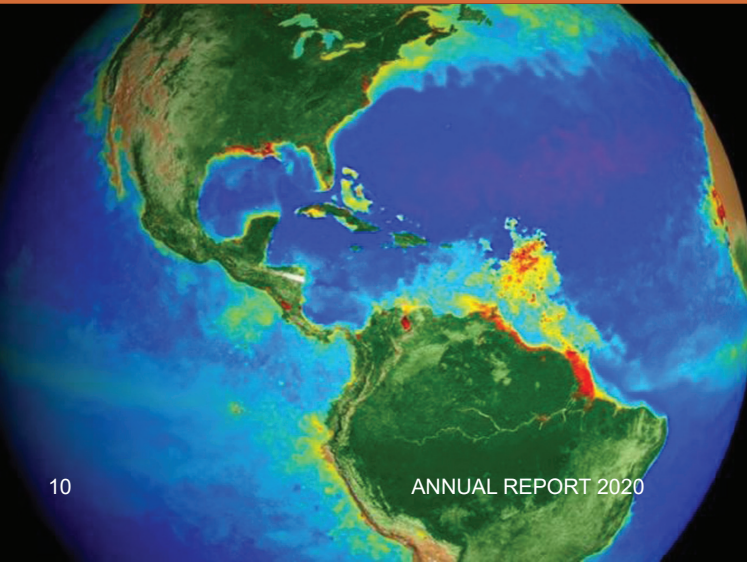
AFRICA: 20,136

ASIA: 33,547

LATIN AMERICA: 610

NORTH AMERICA: 12

UNDISCLOSED LOCATIONS: 216



Statistics represent a fraction of those learning to read with LEI's materials. Since our materials are shared freely online, the global impact is impossible to determine.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

ASIA	Total Teachers Trained: 20
AFRICA	Total Teachers Trained: 9
NORTH AMERICA	Total Teachers Trained: 12
WORLDWIDE	Total Teachers Trained: 41



Dr. Nam-Hyeon Kim (second from the left) leads Tutor Training Workshops in South Korea and Vietnam.



INTERNATIONAL LITERACY TRAINING INSTITUTE ILTI 2019

Literacy & Evangelism International welcomed 17 students and 13 instructors to our 2019 International Literacy Training Institute in June. This year's attendees represented a number of different countries, including Colombia, Ghana, Kenya, Myanmar, Nigeria, South Sudan, and the United States. Instead of the traditional five-week ILTI format, we adopted a three-week, modular training schedule. In addition to courses that all students took, each student was able to choose which of our main course modules fit best with his or her interests and calling. For the first week, students attended either Leading a Literacy Ministry: English (formerly "Firm Foundations") or Leading a Literacy Ministry: Non-English (formerly "Overseas Method"). Second-week modules were Primer Construction or English as a Second Language, and third-week modules included Leadership/Team Dynamics and Project Management, or Facilitating LEI's Online Courses, a new course offering for 2019. By changing our annual training to this format, we were able to accommodate students who would not have been able to attend a five-week training. In addition, each student in a particular module was more engaged in learning, since the module was directly relevant to his or her ministry goals. Although this format meant that students were not able to attend every course, they now have the option of completing many of the ILTI modules online, through the instructor-led and self-paced online courses designed by Dr. Melina Gallo, our Director of Distance Learning (www.literacyevangelism.org/get-involved/training). Based on positive comments from students and instructors, we plan to continue the three-week format for future ILTIs. We are thankful for another successful training, and look forward to what the Lord has in mind for future trainings. For information about future International Literacy Training Institutes, please visit the LEI website, www.literacyevangelism.org/ILTI

Virtual International Literacy Training Institute - September 2020

TULSA LITERACY CENTER

“Reading gave me the right outlook on life.”

- TAFFREY SPENCE



Dwayne Noble (Tutor) and Taffrey Spence at weekly study session.

Taffrey was born in Kingston, Jamaica. The eighth of nine children, Taffrey dropped out of school after the third grade to work. Taffrey and his family moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, when his wife, Debbie, got a job at St. John's Hospital. On her way to work one day Debbie noticed a sign on the LEI building that read, "Tulsa Literacy Center" (TLC). She encouraged Taffrey to get help.

Taffrey came to the TLC in 2016 with a desire to read and write to improve his chances for employment. Beginning at the Pre-Reader level, Taffrey was assigned to Oscar Kastner who tutored him through LEI's seven-book Firm Foundations curriculum. Upon completion, they continued meeting, reading through the Gospels. Next, Ellenor Gopal tutored Taffrey using the computerized Project Light literacy program. They continued with Bible reading. For the past three months, Dwayne Noble has tutored Taffrey. Choosing from a variety of resources, Taffrey and Dwayne meet weekly for an hour, and regular homework is assigned. Dwayne believes in another three months Taffrey will be reading the newspaper!

Taffrey is passionate about learning. He dreams of going to church and reading in his own Bible. He said, "Oscar helped me understand more of the Bible. Ellenor helped me to use a reading program on the computer. Dwayne is building on a foundation. To me (reading) is more precious than money, a car, or a house. Nothing else matters to me more than education and to be able to read and write."

To read more of Taffrey's inspirational story, go to: www.bobbiederman.wordpress.com

MEMBER NATION REGIONAL LITERACY TRAINING L&E GHANA

March 18 to 22, Rev. Samuel Lawerteh led a team of L&E Ghana missionaries to organize a five-day Teacher Training Workshop (TTW) at Dodowa, located in the Dangme West district of the Greater Accra region of Ghana. This TTW took a three-pronged approach, training fourteen participants from a number of different churches to conduct literacy instruction in the Dangme, Twi, and Ga languages. In the months of May and June, Rev. Lawerteh inspected ongoing classes at Dodowa and shared one of several success stories. At the communion service, Sunday, June second, three learners from the Mount Zion literacy class, Dodowa, read three Bible lessons in the Dangme language. These women were enrolled in the class being run by Richard Dadebo and Agnes Yoweh. The students read fluently to the admiration of all.

For the first time, the congregants affirmed the gesture with a round of applause at the end of each lesson. We thank God for the success of the new Bible readers at Dodowa, and invite you to pray for the ongoing literacy classes started as a result of L&E Ghana's Teacher Training Workshops.



New Bible Readers - Ghana



MEMBER NATION REGIONAL LITERACY TRAINING L&E KENYA



Regional Literacy Training Institute - Kenya

A trip to the USA to attend LEI's International Literacy Training Institute is impossible for many overseas workers who would benefit from such an event. Therefore, Regional Literacy Institutes are an imperative work provided by many LEI Member Nation partners. Costs of traveling outside of their region are prohibitive, and the arduous and expensive task of procuring visas is daunting. For a significant number of people, regional institutes make literacy training possible.

L&E Kenya missionaries are not new to literacy training. They have been providing such trainings for many years and are adept in giving this gift to many. This past year L&E Kenya conducted its fourth-annual Regional Literacy Training Institute in Nairobi, Kenya. Their goal is to build a strong base of literacy workers to implement literacy programs throughout Africa.

This past August, L&E Kenya hosted ten participants from six countries: Nigeria, Ghana, DR Congo, Zambia, Malawi, and Kenya. All graduates are now qualified to develop Literacy and Second Language programs. Part one of the training equipped participants to create community literacy programs, exploring ways to use the LEI primer as a tool for literacy instruction, evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. Part two of the program helped participants explore the Biblical basis and implementation of fundraising for literacy programs. Part three explored English Language Ministry as a basis for evangelism and discipleship.

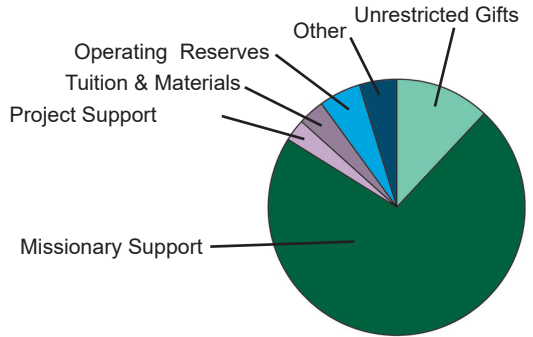
Regional Literacy Trainings multiply the effectiveness of literacy evangelism throughout the world, allowing many more people to share the loving, life-changing message of Jesus Christ while sharing the gift of literacy.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2019*

INCOME






\$110,686	Unrestricted Gifts
\$659,896	Missionary Support
\$ 27,000	Project Support
\$ 30,668	Tuition & Materials
\$ 48,180	Operating Reserves
<u>\$ 41,274</u>	Other
\$917,704	TOTAL

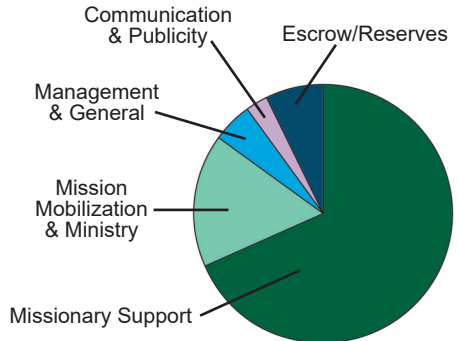
Missionary Support 72%	
Unrestricted Gifts 12%	
Project Support 3%	
Tuition & Materials 3.3%	
Operating Reserves 5.2%	
Other 4.5%	



EXPENSES

\$629,360	Missionary Support
\$150,705	Mission Mobilization & Ministry
\$ 46,066	Management & General
\$ 27,057	Communication & Publicity
<u>\$ 64,516</u>	Escrow/Reserves
\$917,704	TOTAL

Missionary Support 69%	
Mission Mobilization & Ministry 16%	
Management & General 5%	
Communication & Publicity 3%	
Escrow/Reserves 7%	



* Unaudited

LITERACY & EVANGELISM INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2020

Ford Brett - Vice Chair
Jim Davis
Ms. K.T.
Hess Hester
Jim Miller
Sid Rice - Chair

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Managing Director: North America & Europe

Dr. Rebecca Foote
Director: International Literacy Training Institute

Dr. Melina Gallo
Director: Global Distance Learning

Rev. Carey Jo Johnston
Managing Director: LEI-Canada

Dr. James Kigamwa
Managing Director: Africa, Middle East

Mr. Gamaliel Kim
Director: Central Asia

Dr. Nam-Hyeon Kim
Managing Director: Central & Southeast Asia

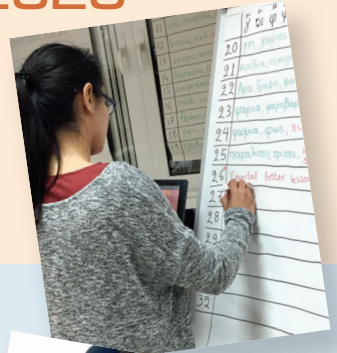
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Rev. Robert M.
Director: Philippines & Refugees

Mr. Georg Ort
Director: Europe

Mr. Roland Rice
Chief Financial Officer

Rev. Dr. Sid Rice
President & Chief Executive Officer



SHORT-TERM MISSION TEAM



*Short-term mission team from Arkansas to Guatemala
Left to right - Back Row: Penny, Tedd, Wes, Adam. Front Row: Nora, and Ian.*



LEI's latest news can be accessed through our Instagram and Facebook accounts and by signing up for LEI's newsletters.

www.instagram.com/Literacy_Evangelism ■ www.facebook.com/LEIUSA

LEI is equipped to receive donations through Electronic Fund Transfers. Please contact our Tulsa office to request a form to initiate this service. You can also donate to individual missionaries, partners, and projects through our website.

LEI is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.
Attention Donors: If you would like an email receipt instead of a paper one, please let us know by emailing:

info@literacyinternational.net

Cover Photo: New reader in Angola, Africa. Photo by Nilza Nonato, member of LEI Brazil.



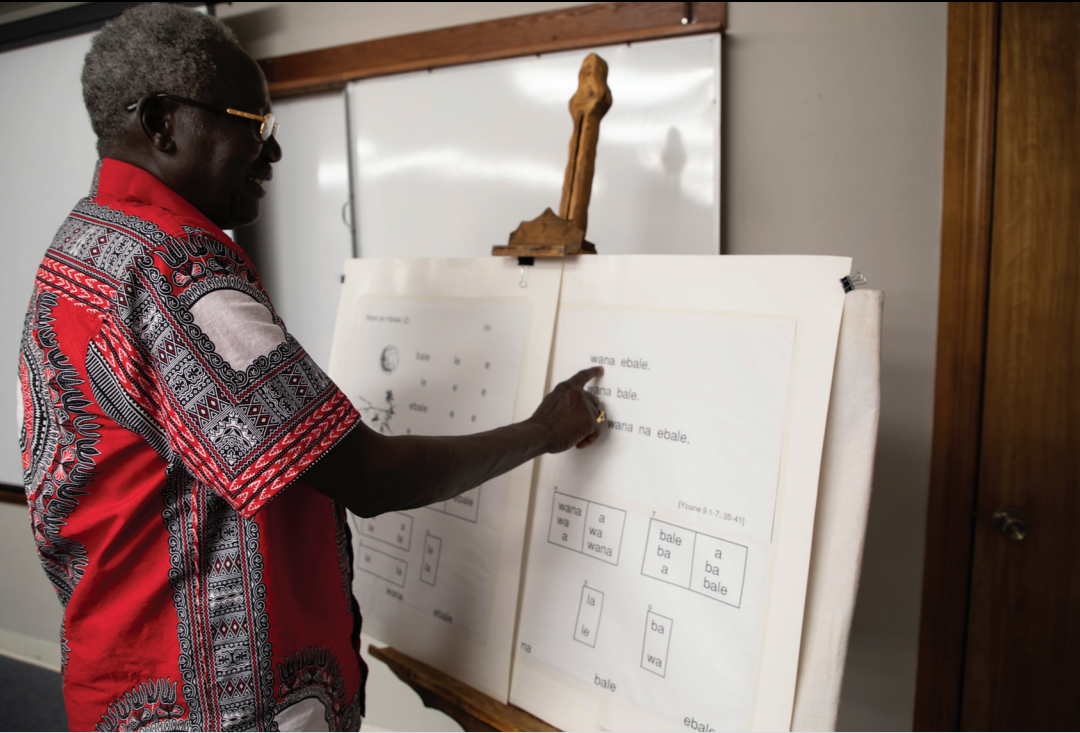
VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL LITERACY
TRAINING INSTITUTE
September 2020

For information:

www.literacyevangelism.org/get-involved/training



Literacy & Evangelism INTERNATIONAL



Bishop Peter Bol Arok - International Literacy Training Institute, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 2019

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If you are not on our email distribution list and would like to receive this "email only" publication,
please send your email address to info@literacyinternational.net.