



Janet's Journal

May 2024



Azeri Sign Language

There are currently an estimated 30,000 Deaf in Azerbaijan, but only 300 of them are Christians, primarily due to more than 85% of Azerbaijanis following another major religion.

But the Azeri Sign Language project seeks to change this by making Jesus' name known among the Azerbaijani Deaf — and beyond, as many of the Deaf in surrounding countries can also understand Azeri Sign Language.

Pastor Israil, a member of the translation team, shared, "Long before this work started, I have constantly translated from the Bible to people. Since we have very few educated Deaf in our country, I have always been the 'book' for people here. I was the only Bible they could 'read'!"



Now Deaf Azerbaijanis have a new "book," as the translation team has completed sign language videos of the Gospels and book of James. The videos are on YouTube and also being distributed through memory cards that can be used on cell phones. They are already making an impact, as God is using them to reveal Himself!

The team is now working to translate 20 additional New Testament books, starting with the book of Acts. In the near future, weekly Scripture engagement activities will be added to the plan, promoting the use of the video translations and carried out by Deaf volunteers from local churches. Please **pray**:

- For the health and well-being of the translation team.
- For continued engagement from Deaf congregation members.
- For the many unreached Deaf to gain access to the translated Scriptures.
- That God would transform the lives of all involved.

"Pray that the Lord's message will spread rapidly and be honored wherever it goes, just as when it came to you" (2 Thessalonians 3:1b, NLT).

My volunteer work has slowed down a bit, but I'm hoping I will have more projects to work on soon. I like to keep busy! The only medical appointment I have scheduled is an eye check-up the end of this month. I'll find out if it's healed from the last surgery, and whether the laser treatment is doing its job in keeping the pressure down. Then I will also find out if I will need to continue to get injections or will finally be able to put those behind me. Please **pray** for a good report.

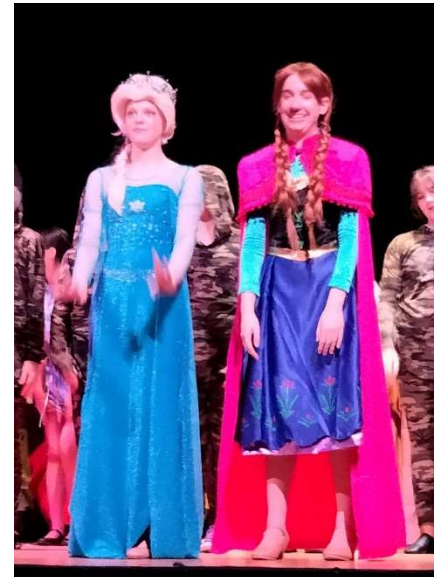
I've seen the chiropractor a couple times and will continue to do so periodically for my lower back pain. He has been helpful. I may try another non-spinal injection from the orthopedic doctor before my trip to help me handle all the walking and riding on airplanes, buses and trains, and so I can have a fun and safe trip. I'd love to hear from you about your experiences with spinal injections. I've heard enough so far to make it sound too scary to go through, and there's no guarantee it will help.

My Bible study has ended, and this week was the last one for teaching two and three year-olds at church until the fall. Now I can fill summer with other fun and relaxing activities. My next adventure will be a trip to Alaska from May 31 to June 8. I did a cruise around Alaska in 2004, but this one will be to visit cities in the interior, and especially Denali National Park. I love seeing wildlife so am really looking forward to this trip.



My kittens continue growing and getting into trouble, but still bring me joy and are good company. They'll have their first "wellness" visit next week. Hopefully they'll behave and tolerate being handled by strangers. I recently enjoyed seeing my great niece Molly perform in a school play, Frozen Jr. She had a lead part as Anna and did an excellent job.

As always, your prayers and gifts cause me to praise God for His goodness and provision.



In Christ's service,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Janet".

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Pray for:

Relief from back pain
No more eye injections
Safety & good health on vacation

Praise for:

A good chiropractor
Azeri sign language gospel videos
Cali and Muffin