

## JESSE & ERIN ATKINSON

(SAMUEL AND AMOS)

Wycliffe Bible Translators — Oaxaca (wah-HAH-kah), Mexico

### WHAT WE DO:

We serve the **Zapotec** people of San Dionisio in Oaxaca. They do not currently have any access to God’s Word in their language! Their language, Zapotec, is tonal and has more in common with to Chinese or Swahili than Spanish.

Our vision is to see them transformed by the power of Scripture in the language that best speaks to their heart.

Working alongside the community, our goal is to **translate the Bible into their language** and assist them with literacy (we’re currently testing a tentative alphabet) and other church materials in their own language, such a hymns and liturgy.



**Offering Goal: \$2,500**  
(To pay our primary Zapotec tutors and fund literacy development)

**GIVE ONLINE:** [Wycliffe.org/partner/JEAtkinson](https://wycliffe.org/partner/JEAtkinson)

**OUR FACEBOOK GROUP (UPDATES, NEWSLETTERS, PHOTOS):**

“Atkinson Adventures in Oaxaca”

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Friends, a confession: Composing the *Annual Report to the Congregation* is not my favorite task. I believe it is vitally important to share this information with you — the data about our mission impact is just as critical as our budgets. This year, as I reflected on the data and the outlook for the future, I have been nothing but encouraged and inspired.

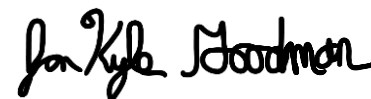
We had our bell rung in the summer of 2024. It hurt. It was scary. Many of us carry the anxiety, the pain, and even the trauma of it with us still.

But the way that Pastor Jess as acting Head of Staff, the Executive Team, Session, and this congregation responded was extraordinary. A stewardship campaign focused on prayer, commitment, and dedication reminded us why we were a part of this congregation in the first place. Pledges were as strong as they have been in years — we had increases from so many givers. We added 15 new pledgers. We found places to trim the budget.

Objectively, it was the best fiscal year we have had in my eight years at Alamance. That doesn’t mean that all our challenges are behind us. Alamance can no longer afford to live off of the past. We cannot assume that our accumulated resources will be enough to sustain us; nor should we imagine that the same old routines, programs, and ministries will have the return they once did.

Session is committed to revisiting our mission statement and vision in order to chart a new course for our church. Last year was our wake-up call. Well, we are wide awake now! May we be encouraged and emboldened to go where the Spirit might lead us next.

In Christ’s Love and Light,



The Reverend Dr. Kyle Goodman