



Borchard Prayer Letter

Papua New Guinea

September 2020

Dear Praying Friends,

I want to bring you up to date on how things are going in Papua New Guinea. In May the translation center was able to start opening up. Training was developed about the virus for people who live outside of the center, so once Ipili translators Mandita and Margret took this training they were allowed to go onto the center to work on the translation. This meant that we could communicate using email. As a result, I learned that Margret had given birth in April to a baby boy that she named Levi.



*Consultant Yauko with Mandita and Amos
During Consultant Check Last Year*

Soon after the center opened up Mandita told me that he wanted to go to the Ipili area to build the translation office/house there. I was able to arrange for money to be put into his bank account so he could make that trip. He went to the Ipili area in late June and plans to stay about two months. In late July he sent a message to me saying that he needed a little more money for the house, so I had more money sent to his account so he could finish that work. I also included money he needs for living expenses, and for travel back to Ukarumpa. ***Please pray for safety for him and for others working with him on the house, and pray for safe travel when he goes back to Ukarumpa.***

Coronavirus in Papua New Guinea

The number of known coronavirus cases stayed very low for a long time. One thing that helped the situation was that the PNG government has stopped most flights going into the country, and people on flights that are allowed into the country are required to be quarantined for two weeks upon arrival. Unfortunately, in July some cases were confirmed in the capital city of Port Moresby. At the point that I am writing this letter in August cases in Port Moresby have gone up significantly, and some cases are now being reported in other parts of the country. ***Please ask the Lord to have mercy on the people of Papua New Guinea.*** We in the Ipili team are concerned that if coronavirus cases develop near the translation center people living outside the center will once again not be able to go onto the center, so we are trying to prepare ahead of time for that possibility. Fortunately, since they now have electricity at Mandita's house, Mandita and Margret will be able to continue working on the translation, but communication will be more difficult if they cannot go onto the center. Sending our translation work to each other will also be a challenge.

Continuing on with Translation Work

I'm hoping that eventually Mandita, Margret, and I can start using Skype, or some other program, to work together. This will only be possible if they are able to work at their translation office at the center. If we can set this up I'm thinking that we might be able to work together several days a week for a couple of hours each day. This way we could make progress on the team check of Exodus even while I am here in the United States. ***Please pray that we will be able to set up the needed technology, and that it will work for us.***

Even if we are unable to do this long distance team check at this time, there is plenty of work for us each to do on the translation of Exodus. I am currently working on the first advisor check of chapters 29-34,

and Margret is working on the Melanesian Pidgin back-translation of chapters 37-40. When Mandita returns he will be able to go through Exodus starting at chapter 15 to look at my notes and edit the translation. As he finishes chapters Margret will be able to edit her back-translation, and then once I receive their work I will be able to work on my second advisor check of those chapters. ***Please pray for us all as we persevere in this work!***

Longer term plans are still uncertain. I am thinking that I might be able to go to Papua New Guinea sometime next year. We'll see what the Lord has in mind! In the meantime we will do what the Lord puts before us to do each day.

Your Partner in Bible Translation,

Janet

Correspondence

Janet Borchard
650 Harlow Rd., #139
Springfield OR 97477
Home: 541-726-2889
Cell: 541-513-8193
Email: Janet.Borchard@LBT.org or
ja.borchard@gmail.com

Contributions

Lutheran Bible Translators
PO Box 789
Concordia MO 64020
LBT of Canada 137 Queen St. S.
Kitchener, ON N2G 1W2
Designate: *Borchard Ministry*



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