Australia

**EASTERN & CENTRAL ARRERNTÉ; AUSTRALIA (2,820)**

The Eastern and Central Arrernte speaking communities face steep challenges that stem in part from widespread alcohol abuse and domestic violence. *Ask God* to stir people’s hearts and make them spiritually hungry for lasting solutions to these challenges. *Pray* that they will see a way forward that God, through His Spirit and Word, can provide. *Praise God,* the New Testament along with Old Testament portions was typeset last year, with team members working together remotely from the Netherlands and Australia. It was sent for printing and will be dedicated this year! *Thank the Lord* for the Bible Society of Australia, who is publishing it. *Intercede* for the Arrernte people, and ask that they will earnestly seek peace and direction in God’s Word. *Pray* that heart-language Scripture will strengthen, encourage and equip them in all aspects of their lives.

**Cook Islands/New Zealand/Australia**

**PUKAPUKA; COOK ISLANDS/NEW ZEALAND/AUSTRALIA (7,000)**

Following a decision to produce a diglot version of the Pukapuka New Testament, the translation team began a review of the whole New Testament. *Lift up* Kevin and Mai as they hone and polish the final books. *Uphold* Mai, who has outside employment while working part-time on the translation. *Pray* for consistent and effective communication via Skype with scattered members of the translation committee, and for final confirmation of how to translate key biblical terms. *Ask God* to give Mary wisdom and strength as she completes consultant checks and oversees final adjustments in the text.

*Lift up* Kevin as he compiles a bilingual glossary, an index of topics and key terms, and a small concordance to include in the New Testament. *Pray* for the typesetting in Holland and the printing in Sri Lanka to go smoothly. *Pray* that each community will support the project in this critical phase and for unity in planning a dedication in late 2017 or early 2018. *Ask the Holy Spirit* to bring great fruit from the daily readings posted on Facebook and by email.

Pacific Islands

**ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — CAROLINIAN, NUKUORO, AND PA’UMOTU LANGUAGES; PACIFIC ISLANDS (16,550)**

Last year, the Carolinian team completed a final spellcheck of the Old Testament! *Pray* for a quality print job and safe delivery to the home area. *Praise the Lord,* the Nukuoro team has made good progress processing a consultant’s comments on the Old Testament translation. *Pray* for good health for the Nukuoro translation team members as they have struggled with many health issues. *Give thanks,* the Pa’umotu team has completed translating the book of Psalms. *Ask the Lord* to anoint Paulus, the consultant, so he will be able to complete a final check of Psalms. *Pray* that these two projects can get past the detailed, final hurdle of proofreading so that they will be ready for typesetting and publishing later this year.

**SEED COMPANY — THESEEDCOMPANY.ORG**

Papua New Guinea

**AIKLEP; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (6,000)**

*Thank the Lord* that the expatriate members of the translation team returned in January from a refreshing six months visiting family and partners
in their home country. Pray that they be energized for the rigorous tasks involved in Bible translation. They plan to complete the New Testament with Old Testament portions in 2019. Ask the Holy Spirit to anoint them and the mother-tongue translators as they work through each book, seeking to faithfully and clearly communicate God’s truths in Aiklep. Pray that members of the team can wisely balance time devoted to the translation work and time to other ministries. As portions of the Scriptures become available, pray that the Aiklep will say with the Psalmist: “Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105, NLT).

NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG

BARUGA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (2,230)

Praise God, the translation team finished the last consultant check of the Baruga New Testament text last year. Work on an audio recording of the New Testament is underway. Pray for each member of the team to have good health, stamina and wisdom as they revise and edit the New Testament manuscript and finish the audio recording. A local fulltime typesetter for over 30 years will retire just before the Baruga New Testament is ready for typesetting. Ask Jehovah-Jireh to provide someone to replace her so there will be no delays when the New Testament is ready for that step. Lift up the typesetting and printing processes, asking the Lord to give energy and wisdom to those involved and for all the equipment to work well. A dedication is planned for next year. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide the Baruga team as they take on the translation of the Old Testament.

BIEM; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (2,200)

The translation team made great progress last year. Matthew, Romans, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon were checked by a consultant, while Luke and John were the last books of the New Testament to be drafted. Several books were also checked for comprehension with Biem speakers to ensure they were clear and natural sounding. The team needs special endurance and wisdom this year as they work with a consultant to polish the remaining books, prior to publication. The consultant will thoroughly review the manuscript with the team, checking for accuracy, clarity and naturalness, and looking for omissions, extraneous thoughts, or possible misconceptions. Lift up each member of the team, asking the Lord to fill them with the Holy Spirit and renew them daily to see the work completed. Pray that the church-planting team will continue to enjoy good health; this frees the translation team to devote themselves fully to completing the New Testament.

NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG

BUSH MENGEN; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (8,400)

Last year the translation team printed and distributed the books of Galatians, Philippians, Colossians and 2 Corinthians. Praise God! Mengen believers are excited to read these books and apply God’s truths to their lives. Pray for the translation team as they have high goals for 2017. They want to have nine books approved for publication: 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude, James, Matthew and Revelation. At the same time, they would like to complete first drafts of John and Hebrews. These two books are difficult to translate so ask the Lord to give extra wisdom and discernment to the team as they strive to make them clear and accurate. They also need to correctly define common key terms such as faith, kingdom and grace in a culture where a single word in English or Greek cannot be translated by a single word in Mengen. Pray for God to lead them to accurate and meaningful ways to translate these words.

NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG

BWAIKOHA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (6,500)

Praise the Lord. Genesis and a book of seven New Testament epistles were published in the Bwaidoka language last year. Pray for widespread distribution and a positive reception to the books. This year the translation team will work on revising several New Testament books so they will be ready for consultant checks. Thank the Lord for consultants who have agreed to check these books. Pray for the team’s mother-tongue translators who are getting on in years. Ask the Lord to keep them healthy and growing in their spiritual walk. Pray for the Holy Spirit to infuse people in all the Bwaidoka villages with spiritual hunger. Pray for spiritual understanding and wisdom for God’s people, especially for the pastors of the local churches.

SEED COMPANY — THESEEDCOMPANY.ORG

DOM; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (12,000)

Before the official dedication of the Dom New Testament, a few copies were hand delivered to the Dom people by a man who had grown up as a missionary child among them. He gave the first copy to Kapia, one of the original language coaches to his parents. Kapia held the completed Dom New Testament and was excited to read these books and apply God’s truths to their lives. Pray for the translation team as they have high goals for 2017. They want to have nine books approved for publication: 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude, James, Matthew and Revelation. At the same time, they would like to complete first drafts of John and Hebrews. These two books are difficult to translate so ask the Lord to give extra wisdom and discernment to the team as they strive to make them clear and accurate. They also need to correctly define common key terms such as faith, kingdom and grace in a culture where a single word in English or Greek cannot be translated by a single word in Mengen. Pray for God to lead them to accurate and meaningful ways to translate these words.

NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG

BUSH MENGEN; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (8,400)

Last year the translation team printed and distributed the books of Galatians, Philippians, Colossians and 2 Corinthians. Praise God! Mengen believers are excited to read these books and apply God’s truths to their lives. Pray for the translation team as they have high goals for 2017. They want to have nine books approved for publication: 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude, James, Matthew and Revelation. At the same time, they would like to complete first drafts of John and Hebrews. These two books are difficult to translate so ask the Lord to give extra wisdom and discernment to the team as they strive to make them clear and accurate. They also need to correctly define common key terms such as faith, kingdom and grace in a culture where a single word in English or Greek cannot be translated by a single word in Mengen. Pray for God to lead them to accurate and meaningful ways to translate these words.

NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG

BWAIKOHA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (6,500)

Praise the Lord. Genesis and a book of seven New Testament epistles were published in the Bwaidoka language last year. Pray for widespread distribution and a positive reception to the books. This year the translation team will work on revising several New Testament books so they will be ready for consultant checks. Thank the Lord for consultants who have agreed to check these books. Pray for the team’s mother-tongue translators who are getting on in years. Ask the Lord to keep them healthy and growing in their spiritual walk. Pray for the Holy Spirit to infuse people in all the Bwaidoka villages with spiritual hunger. Pray for spiritual understanding and wisdom for God’s people, especially for the pastors of the local churches.

SEED COMPANY — THESEEDCOMPANY.ORG

DOM; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (12,000)

Before the official dedication of the Dom New Testament, a few copies were hand delivered to the Dom people by a man who had grown up as a missionary child among them. He gave the first copy to Kapia, one of the original language coaches to his parents. Kapia held the completed Dom New Testament and was excited to read these books and apply God’s truths to their lives. Pray for the translation team as they have high goals for 2017. They want to have nine books approved for publication: 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude, James, Matthew and Revelation. At the same time, they would like to complete first drafts of John and Hebrews. These two books are difficult to translate so ask the Lord to give extra wisdom and discernment to the team as they strive to make them clear and accurate. They also need to correctly define common key terms such as faith, kingdom and grace in a culture where a single word in English or Greek cannot be translated by a single word in Mengen. Pray for God to lead them to accurate and meaningful ways to translate these words.

NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG

BUSH MENGEN; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (8,400)

Last year the translation team printed and distributed the books of Galatians, Philippians, Colossians and 2 Corinthians. Praise God! Mengen believers are excited to read these books and apply God’s truths to their lives. Pray for the translation team as they have high goals for 2017. They want to have nine books approved for publication: 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude, James, Matthew and Revelation. At the same time, they would like to complete first drafts of John and Hebrews. These two books are difficult to translate so ask the Lord to give extra wisdom and discernment to the team as they strive to make them clear and accurate. They also need to correctly define common key terms such as faith, kingdom and grace in a culture where a single word in English or Greek cannot be translated by a single word in Mengen. Pray for God to lead them to accurate and meaningful ways to translate these words.

NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG

BWAIKOHA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (6,500)

Praise the Lord. Genesis and a book of seven New Testament epistles were published in the Bwaidoka language last year. Pray for widespread distribution and a positive reception to the books. This year the translation team will work on revising several New Testament books so they will be ready for consultant checks. Thank the Lord for consultants who have agreed to check these books. Pray for the team’s mother-tongue translators who are getting on in years. Ask the Lord to keep them healthy and growing in their spiritual walk. Pray for the Holy Spirit to infuse people in all the Bwaidoka villages with spiritual hunger. Pray for spiritual understanding and wisdom for God’s people, especially for the pastors of the local churches.

SEED COMPANY — THESEEDCOMPANY.ORG

DOM; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (12,000)

Before the official dedication of the Dom New Testament, a few copies were hand delivered to the Dom people by a man who had grown up as a missionary child among them. He gave the first copy to Kapia, one of the original language coaches to his parents. Kapia held the completed Dom New Testament and was excited to read these books and apply God’s truths to their lives. Pray for the translation team as they have high goals for 2017. They want to have nine books approved for publication: 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude, James, Matthew and Revelation. At the same time, they would like to complete first drafts of John and Hebrews. These two books are difficult to translate so ask the Lord to give extra wisdom and discernment to the team as they strive to make them clear and accurate. They also need to correctly define common key terms such as faith, kingdom and grace in a culture where a single word in English or Greek cannot be translated by a single word in Mengen. Pray for God to lead them to accurate and meaningful ways to translate these words.
Testament in his wrinkled hands and began reading the words of God in his own tongue. With tears of joy from eyes that had grown dim with age, he read on late into the night with only the glow of a flashlight illuminating its pages. God’s eternal light was now shining brightly into the darkness! On August 26, 2016, hundreds came from all over the Dom area and from churches in nearby related language groups to dedicate the New Testament. After joyous speeches and testimonies, copies of the Dom New Testament were sold at a nominal, affordable price and they were completely gone in less than twenty minutes! More copies are being printed. Pray for ongoing literacy classes to raise up many readers for the Scriptures. Pray for the Dom to be transformed by the Holy Spirit through reading about God’s love in the pages of the New Testament.

NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG

**DOROMU-KOKI; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (1,800)**

Give thanks! The Doromu-Koki New Testament is in the typesetting phase and a dedication celebration is planned for the last half of 2018. Praise God that the “JESUS” film has been recorded, with plans to also audio record the complete New Testament. Please pray that the Doromu-Koki people will be excited about their New Testament and will treasure and use it when it comes. Pray also for the planning of Scripture application and leadership training courses, as well as Scripture use activities in the community. Ask God’s Spirit to prepare fertile soil among the Doromu-Koki so that as they read and hear God’s Word, it will take root and grow.

**GUMAWANA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (500)**

Praise God for progress the Gumawana team has made on the New Testament translation, despite the death of one of the main translators in 2015. Give thanks for God’s faithfulness and the translation team’s perseverance for over 10 years. Lift them up in prayer, asking God to keep them healthy and safe from all harm. A critical need is for boat transportation to the Amphlett Islands, where the translation project takes place. One member of the team lives in the U.S. and makes trips to work on-site with the team. This is difficult, however, with no regular boats. Ask God to provide a boat each time he needs one. Pray for continued training of new, younger members of the translation team.

**KASUA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (600)**

Praise God! The Kasua New Testament is at the printers. Lift up the Kasua people, asking the Lord to prepare their hearts for a dedication in October 2017. Pray that an audio recording of the New Testament will also be completed by then. Ask God to direct plans to hold Scripture application and leadership training sessions next year. Pray that the Kasua will say with the prophet Jeremiah, “When I discovered your words, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart’s delight.” (Jeremiah 15:16, NLT).

**KUNI-BOAZI; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (4,500)**

On January 8, 2016, the Kuni-Boazi finally received God’s Word in their heart language! After a solemn procession symbolically incorporating the Ark of the Covenant, the New Testaments were dedicated to the Lord and to his use in people’s hearts. Four people representing three generations read passages from the New Testament, followed by singing, dancing and dramas recounting the history of how they received the Scriptures. At night, more than 1,000 people watched the “JESUS” film in Kuni. Praise God, the New Testament is available in print, on small audio players and on SD cards. The next morning people were listening to God’s Word on their players. Pray that the audio players will operate correctly; there have been occasional problems. Pray that more and more people will get interested in reading God’s Word and that more of the printed New Testaments will be sold. Lift up the translation committee in prayer as they decide who should be involved in Old Testament translation. Intercede especially for Emmanuel, a gifted young man who wishes to overcome certain personal obstacles in order to join the translation team.

**MATO; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (700)**

Praise the Lord, revisions and village checks of the last 28 percent of the Mato New Testament were completed last year. This year the translation team will focus on finishing back translations, consultant checks and revisions. Lift up the team as they work on these final steps before they can move ahead with publishing the Mato New Testament. Pray for health and stamina for all the team members and community members involved in the translation. Ask God to provide speakers with strong, clear voices and the necessary staff to complete an audio recording of the New Testament.

**MBORENA KAM; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (2,100)**

In March 2015, the Mborena Kam translation team decided that to adequately check on the naturalness of the New Testament text and to overcome final spelling and grammar issues, they would complete a New Testament audio recording and use it as a resource in their final check of the New Testament.

THE FINISH LINE 2017
Praise God for the team's creativity in overcoming obstacles in translation. The team is now in the last months of recording and editing the text. Ask the Lord to enable team members to complete their goals despite illness, weather and other circumstances that could prevent them from doing so. Pray for a smooth printing process and that the New Testament books will be ready for a July dedication. Pray for wide distribution of the published books and that the hearts of the Mborena Kam people will be open to hear the Word of God in their own language.

**MINAVEHA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (2,700)**

The Minaveha received the New Testament in their heart language in 2009. A team has been working on the Old Testament, along with revising the New Testament. Praise the Lord that the translation of the Old Testament, initial checking, and review by a committee was completed last year. Pray for good feedback when the manuscript is checked by Minaveha speakers in the community. The team wants to make sure it communicates accurately and naturally. Lift up the ones who then read through the entire manuscript a final time. Pray that they will find any errors or sections needing improvement.

Ask the Lord to give strength and good health to all the translators involved. Ask God to provide additional financial support for the translation project in light of increased prices in the country. Pray for reliable and safe boat travel for the team as well as facilities for them to work in.

**MUSSAU-EMIRA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (6,000)**

Give glory to God, the translation team finished consultant checking the entire New Testament last year. Pray this year as they finalize introductions for each book and finish a glossary. Lift up the team as they check to ensure that key terms and spelling are consistent throughout the manuscript. Ask God to provide good feedback as they conduct a final read-through of the New Testament. They want to ensure that the texts are accurate and sound natural. Pray for the Lord to protect the translation team members, their families, the translation equipment and the Mussau-Emira people. They are located on remote islands, and travel is precarious and a challenge. Pray that God will be preparing the people to receive his Word with joy and delight.

**NEW IRELAND CLUSTER — BAROK, FANAMAKET, HINSAAL, AND KONDAS LANGUAGES; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (8,200)**

Rejoice! The Hinsaal New Testament was dedicated on September 2, 2016. Ask the Lord to use this Scripture to help believers turn from traditional animistic practices and instead trust God to meet their needs. Give thanks, the final consultant check of the Barok New Testament is complete and has been sent for typesetting. Pray that proper biblical teaching will provide a solid foundation on which the Barok people can build their lives. Pray also that knowledge of God’s Word would combat any false teachings. The Fanamaket translation team is looking for consultants to check the remaining Bible books. Lift up the team in prayer, asking God to provide community members to read through the translation. Pray for understanding among the Fanamaket people as they learn about Jesus’ life and sacrifice and about salvation by grace.

**MENYA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (25,000)**

Praise the Lord, the Menya translation team completed an audio recording of the Gospel of Luke last year. Eighteen readers were involved with making the recording. Give thanks for the hard work they put into the project. Pray that this audio version of Luke will promote interest in the coming of the New Testament in print form. The translation team is also preparing Scripture engagement activities for the Menya to take part in before the dedication of the New Testament in late 2017. Pray that the churches will develop a greater interest in this translation project and support the dedication later this year. Lift up the translation of the New Testament in prayer. Ask God that it would proceed smoothly, with harmony among those involved and few, if any, equipment problems.

**MIGABAC; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (1,670)**

Give thanks! Over 70 percent of the New Testament has been published. Pray that these books will speak to the Migabac and cause them to follow Christ. Lift up the translation team as they work on the remaining 30 percent by taking the books through the necessary checking and revision steps. Pray for a new team that is being trained to work on the Old Testament. Ask the Lord to provide all they need in skills, knowledge and finances to proceed with the Old Testament. Pray for spiritual fruit among the Migabac and that God’s church will grow and thrive.

**SEED COMPANY — THESEEDCOMPANY.ORG**
**SIMBARI; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (4,000)**

*Praise God,* the entire New Testament in Simbari is now in draft form! *Lift up* the translation team as they process the individual book drafts through rigorous checking procedures necessary before the books can be released for publication. They want to be sure that the text sounds natural, is accurate and can be easily understood. *Pray* for the team to have focus, wisdom and energy to finish the task. *Ask the Lord* to bless their families with good health and stability so the team can concentrate on their work. And *pray* that God’s Word will powerfully influence the translators’ lives as they work with it day after day.

**NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG**

**TIGAK; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (15,000)**

*Rejoice* that one more group in Papua New Guinea is getting close to having the New Testament and portions of the Old Testament in their heart language. The Tigak translation team completed James, 1-2 Peter, Jude and parts of Matthew last year. *Lift them up,* asking the Lord to fill them with wisdom and joy as they press forward to complete Matthew and begin to translate Luke. *Pray* for each team member to have good health and be touched by God’s Spirit while working so closely with the Word each day. *Pray* that these remaining books will be clear and natural in the Tigak language, and that they will speak to the hearts of the people. *Pray* that one day many Tigak people will acknowledge with the prophet Jeremiah, “His word burns in my heart like a fire” (Jeremiah 20:9, NLT).

**NEW TRIBES MISSION — NTM.ORG**

**URA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (2,400)**

*Praise the Lord* that all books in the Ura New Testament, with the exception of Matthew, were consultant checked by mid-2016 before two members of the team left for six months in their home country. *Pray* that the book of Matthew will be brought through all the necessary checks this year. *Lift up* the translation team as they complete the final stages of checking for consistent use of key terms and spelling throughout the New Testament books. They also need to hold a final read-through of the entire manuscript to be sure it is accurate and sounds natural. *Ask the Lord* to direct the team as to what study helps to include with the New Testament and to provide staff to produce these helps. *Pray* for God’s provision for people with strong, clear voices to make an audio recording of the New Testament. And *pray* that God’s Word will impact Ura communities as they encounter his Word in written and audio forms.

**URAT; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (6,280)**

The Urat New Testaments arrived at the docks in Wewak, Papua New Guinea, on July 21, 2016. *Give thanks,* on July 30 a dedication ceremony was held to celebrate the new translation! *Pray* that the Urat people will hunger for God’s Word. To ensure greater use of the Scriptures, the team is conducting adult teacher training and scripture application and leadership training in the Urat community. *Ask the Lord* to bring people to the courses who have a heart for this type of work and who will serve faithfully in teaching others to read in their own language. *Pray* for the audio recording of the Scriptures, especially for fluent readers to record the parts and for the Lord to coordinate the logistical details.

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA BIBLE TRANSLATION ASSOCIATION — PNGBTA.ORG**

**VITU; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (8,800)**

*Praise the Lord* for progress the translation team made last year. *Pray* as the New Testament is printed that the equipment will work well and that beautiful, well-bound books will result. The team hopes to hold a dedication in November this year, or June/July of 2018. *Pray* for unity, stamina and good health for the translation team as they work on Scripture engagement activities. *Ask God* to help them finalize an audio recording of the New Testament. *Give thanks* for a remarkable Bible app that is available to the Vitu people with smart phones. The recording and translated text of 60 percent of the Vitu New Testament are put into the app so the Vitu people can experience hearing and reading the Word of God in their heart language. In the app, the spoken text is highlighted so people can follow along. This helps the Vitu learn to read their language. *Pray* for the Vitu, asking the Lord to use the recorded and printed Scriptures, and the Bible app, to bring people into a vital relationship with Christ. *Pray* for Vitu believers to support the project with prayer and finances.

**VULA’A; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (6,400)**

The Vula’a translation team has been pushing hard to move the drafted New Testament books through the steps leading up to publication. The biggest obstacle is a lack of consultants. Consultants need to approve the final drafts to ensure they are accurate and sound natural. *Ask the Lord* to raise up more consultants for the Bible Society of Papua New Guinea. *Pray* for the ones currently being trained to get the experience they need to be authorized checkers. *Lift up* Dr. Jeremiah Tamate, Vula’a project coordinator, as he guides the team toward completion. *Ask God* to give him wisdom, good health and faith. *Pray* that the Holy
Spirit will be at work preparing “good soil” so that when the Vula’a receive God’s Word, they will “hear God’s word, cling to it, and ... produce a huge harvest” (Luke 8:15, NLT).

**BIBLE SOCIETY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**WARAN; PAPUA NEW GUINEA (3,000)**

The finish line is getting closer! Lift up the translation team as they press to complete the consultant checks of the Gospel of Luke and six short epistles by the end of March. They would like to begin typesetting the New Testament this summer. Pray that the advisor to the project and the mother-tongue translators will be strong and healthy. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill them so they will stand firm against any spiritual hindrance or opposition to God’s Word being completed and published. Pray for the team to “Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power” (Ephesians 6:10, NLT). Pray for successful literacy and Scripture engagement activities so that the Waran people will be well-equipped to read and use the New Testament.

**PIONEER BIBLE TRANSLATORS PAPUA NEW GUINEA — PBTPNG.ORG**

**Solomon Islands**

**GELA; SOLOMON ISLANDS (14,500)**

Over 3,000 Gela people gathered on May 1, 2016, to attend the dedication of the Gela New Testament. God now spoke, in printed form, the Gela’s heart language! With true Gela church pageantry, the local bishop blessed the New Testament and dedicated it for use in the Gela churches. People crowded around the Bible sales stall, concerned that they might miss out on acquiring a copy. Within a few days almost 2,500 copies had sold. The next week a team of young adults held programs in two villages to encourage the villagers to use their new Bibles. Through skits, testimonies, teaching, “sword drills” and mime the team drew sizable crowds and helped people realize the privilege they have to own such a precious resource, and how to use it well. They held competitions to see who could be first to stand up and read a verse from the New Testament. Some bought Bibles on the spot so they could compete in the game! Praise God for this reception and that Bibles are being read daily in the church services. Pray for transformed lives and for more people in God’s kingdom through the Gela New Testament.

**NORTH MALAITA CLUSTER PROJECT — BAEGGU AND FATALEKA LANGUAGES; SOLOMON ISLANDS (12,600)**

Praise God! The Baeggu translation team sent the New Testament to be typeset at the end of 2016. Pray that there will be no complications so it can be printed and a dedication take place this year. The Fataleka New Testament is at the printers and the team hopes that copies will reach the language area by June. They are hard at work preparing for a dedication ceremony. Pray for both translation teams as they schedule audio recordings of the New Testaments with Faith Comes By Hearing and production of the “JESUS” film. Ask the Lord to give them stamina, good health and clear minds. Thank the Lord that the teams are nearing the completion of their labors. Pray that the Baeggu and Fataleka people will feed on God’s Word in their heart languages, receive Jesus and grow in him.

**SEED COMPANY — THESEEDCOMPANY.ORG**

**ROVIANA; SOLOMON ISLANDS (14,000)**

Praise the Lord! The full Roviana Bible was sent to the typesetter last year. The Roviana people are excited about having their own complete Bible. Give thanks for the church leaders who are involved with recording the audio New Testament. This recording has made people aware that the translation is nearing completion. Ask God to work in the hearts of the Roviana people so that they will be ready to hear his word. Lift up the translation team in prayer as they prepare for the dedication of their Bible. They are hoping for a celebration on May 23, 2017, a day that marks the 115th anniversary of the gospel being brought to the Roviana people. Pray that there will be no complications in the typesetting and printing process.

**Vanuatu**

**AMBRYM, SOUTHEAST; VANUATU (3,700)**

Rejoice! On May 16, 2016, the Southeast Ambrym New Testament and Old Testament portions were dedicated and distributed. People from different islands and denominations worshipped joyfully together, celebrating the Word of God becoming available to them in their culture and language. One of the translators shared, “No longer is he the foreign colonial God of the English or French. He’s the personal God of the Southeast Ambrym people.” Praise the Lord that after the service, people rushed to purchase the printed and audio New Testaments in...
Pray that the new believers will use their Bibles regularly and soak up every word. Ask God to send his Word out to produce fruit in this area and to prosper everywhere it goes.

SEED COMPANY — THESEEDCOMPANY.ORG

**EPI CLUSTER PROJECT — BAKI, LAMEN AND LEWO LANGUAGES; VANUATU (3,400)**

Last year was a pivotal year for the Baki and Lewo translation projects. The Baki New Testament was typeset but lacks final checks by an advisor. Pray that this will be accomplished soon so it can be sent for printing. The translation team would like to hold a dedication later this year. Thank the Lord that the Lewo New Testament was printed last year and a dedication is scheduled for late February! Ask God to anoint each copy and for great fruit to result as the Lewo read and meditate on God’s Word in their heart language. Lift up the Lamen team, asking the Lord to encourage them and overcome obstacles. They are very close to completing the translation, but community issues have surfaced. Pray for the Holy Spirit to reign and for the community to get behind the project.

**LENAKEL; VANUATU (11,500)**

A draft of the entire New Testament was completed in 2006. Tim, a translator who lived among the Lenakel but now pastors a church in Australia, makes occasional visits back to Vanuatu to conduct intensive checking sessions of the drafts. Thank the Lord for a couple who has joined the work to promote literacy and use of Lenakel Scripture portions already available. They have also set up a committee of interested Lenakel speakers to aid in checking the translation to make sure it is understood correctly. Pray for good feedback so the project can advance. Lift up the team as they also record portions that have already been checked to make them available on Megavoice units, small handheld solar-powered digital audio players. Pray for Tim as he checks a revised orthography with local speakers. Ask God to lead them to an orthography that will be easy for people to use.

**PAAMA; VANUATU (6,000)**

Give thanks, the Paama New Testament, along with audio recordings, was dedicated and distributed on May 15, 2016. Fear of the spirit world runs deep in the Paama culture, but having Scripture in their language now empowers believers to overcome their fear. Praise God, church leaders who attended a two-week workshop on Scripture and cultural rites such as death, burial and sorcery realized that Satan and his demons had deceived them into believing their relatives’ spirits haunt them. Ask the Holy Spirit to work through the Scriptures to help Paama people find freedom from their fear of spirits and to trust in God’s strength. Pray that believers will use their Bibles daily to grow stronger in their faith and that people who don’t know the Lord will find life through his Word in their heart language.

A complete list of all projects, sorted by area of the world, can be downloaded anytime from wycliffe.org/finishline.