Stephanie Richards and her husband, Jon, came to Ambon Island in Indonesia 11 years ago. Their son, Nathan, was just three months old at the time.

“Sometimes living in Ambon is challenging — creating meals, coming up with the things we need for day-to-day living,” Stephanie said. “My greatest challenge is probably the same as many other working moms: managing my time.”

Now that Nathan is 11, Stephanie splits her time between homeschooling him and leading the Ambonese Malay translation team. Jon also has a full-time role as Wycliffe USA’s eastern Indonesia partnership facilitator.

Though it can be difficult to balance home life, ministry life and their personal wellness, Stephanie says she wouldn’t change a thing.

“I learn so much from [the team], and I care deeply for them. I really can’t imagine doing anything else,” she said. “It’s really a dream job. If anyone likes to do Bible study, I get to spend my whole day considering what God’s Word means and talking about it with others. I really love that!”

The translators on her team share Stephanie’s passion for the work.

“Oftentimes translators come to us because they’re looking for a job,” she said. “But they end up staying because it has become a passion; it’s become a calling.

“Translation is really taxing work. It’s hard to sit at the computer for long hours; it can be exhausting. It’s been incredible to see their commitment to the translation. Each member of the team really wants to see the New Testament completed and dedicated. They’re committed to seeing that happen.”

The Ambonese Malay translators’ commitment to the work reminds Stephanie that this is the calling of all believers, to seek his will no matter the cost.

“I know there are people in America who … praise missionaries. They put us up on a pedestal. They think we’re some kind of superheroes, but the truth is, we’re just followers of Christ,” she said. “We’re feeling our way through this, living in obedience to Christ and trusting him.

“I wonder, ‘Why me? Am I really the right person for the job?’ Sometimes I really feel I’m not. But I trust that he has me here for a purpose, and there’s something that I bring. We’re all members of the body of Christ, and he does give us different gifts and abilities and puts us in different places at different times according to his will. We depend on that.”

Today the Ambonese Malay New Testament translation team is sharing God’s Word with their communities in a language they can clearly understand!

Read more about the Ambonese Malay translation team at wycliffe.org/together.
Dear Friends,

As partners of Wycliffe Bible Translators USA, you share in the celebration of God’s faithfulness around the world. We rejoice when lives are transformed because people can understand the Good News in their own language.

There is much to celebrate this year. After enduring years of civil unrest, the Keliko people of South Sudan joyfully dedicated their New Testament this year. Keliko was the 1,000th New Testament completed with the engagement of Wycliffe USA and SIL International.*

We also rejoice with the Ambonese Malay of Indonesia. The Ambonese Malay translation team persevered for 13 years, and this year they finished translating the New Testament. God has already used the translated Scriptures to bring transformation to Ambonese Malay churches and people.

As we reflect on God’s goodness, our hearts and minds also turn toward the future. We anticipate the day that every person will have access to Scripture in their own language and can say as the psalmist did: “How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey” (Psalm 119:103, NLT).

Warmly in Christ,

Bob Creson
President/CEO
Wycliffe Bible Translators, USA

* A primary strategic partner

### WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE WORLD

- **Praise God for the work that’s already happening in Indonesia and the impact it’s making on communities!**

- **Ask God to equip teams and organizations to further the work of Bible translation in Indonesia and around the world.**

- **As Scripture is translated and distributed, pray that people would engage with it and be transformed by the gospel in their own language.**

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**INDONESIA FAST FACTS**

**MAIN LANGUAGE:**

**INDONESIAN**

**NUMBER OF LANGUAGES WITH ...**

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<tr>
<td>80</td>
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* Statistics are pulled from wycliffe.net.

**A GLIMPSE OF INDONESIA**

Indonesia consists of over 17,000 islands and is the world’s fourth largest country in terms of population. Because its people are spread across these distinct islands, Indonesia is a unique blend of cultures and languages.

Indonesians place a high value on community. And slowly many churches are becoming involved with Bible translation for their local languages. The Ambonese Malay translation team looks forward to completing their New Testament translation so that everyone can know the hope and joy of God’s Word!

*You can make a difference in countries like Indonesia by joining our prayer team. Sign up at [wycliffe.org/prayer](http://wycliffe.org/prayer) to receive weekly prayer emails on different countries, people groups and more that help you pray for what God is doing around the world.*

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