

# Taylor Tidings

**Matt & Christy Taylor**  
 Kaitlyn, Nathan, Justin,  
 Julianne & Elijah

*Partners in Bible translation  
 with the Nukna people  
 of Papua New Guinea*

## **Merry Christmas from the Taylors!**

As the end of 2016 draws to a close, we praise God for the blessings he has sent this year. Christy and I feel privileged to serve as Bible translators here in Papua New Guinea (nearly 14 years now). Our kids are happy and healthy (and so glad that school exams are finally over and school break is here!), and God is so good.

Just last week, our translation team completed the final consultant check of the book of Acts in the Nukna language. Acts, Luke and Mark (35% of the New Testament) are now translated into the heart language of the Nukna people! Next month we plan to record Luke and Acts (to go along with the already-recorded Mark) so that all the Nukna people, including those who can't read, can have access to God's Word. During the consultant check of Acts, we had the privilege of working with a Papua New Guinean consultant for the first time (see photo - Nafian, the consultant, is sitting in the foreground).

In October, I (Matt) spent three weeks in Hamelengan village. My time was split between working on the translation of 1 and 2 Thessalonians, and dealing with the termite infestation of our village house. Good progress was made on both fronts. Living out in a remote location like Hamelengan, there is of course no option to tent the house in order to get rid of the termites. With the help of the Nukna people, we ended up tearing out infested timbers one-by-one and replacing them with new wood, cut out in the jungle by chainsaw. Our house was built with six different kinds of wood, and fortunately the termites only seem to like two of them. So the pests were limited to just parts of the house.

After returning from the village, I accompanied the SIL-PNG survey team on a trip to the Weliki language. Very little was known about the Weliki people and language – 45 years ago, a linguist visited one of their villages and wrote down about 100 words. But nothing more was known about



**top to bottom, clockwise:**

- 1) kids and kittens!
- 2) consultant check of Acts
- 3) Justin swinging
- 4) Weliki girl dressed up for village celebration
- 5) Christy & Kaitlyn with the 9th grade girls Community Group

them. From then until now, there had been no follow-up. The survey team assessed the vitality of the language and whether they need a separate Bible translation in their language, while I collected language data and documented this previously undocumented language. It's amazing to me that even in these modern times, there are still pockets of the world about which little to nothing is known. It was a privilege to have been part of the team that visited Weliki.

Christy continues to work at the medical clinic here at the Ukarumpa translation center, along with everything she does to keep things running smoothly on the home front. She also fills other needs around the center when she can – recently she served as a substitute teacher for Elijah's preschool class.

We would like to ask prayer for our upcoming six-month furlough beginning this June. At this point, we don't have anywhere to live for our time in the U.S. We are hoping to live somewhere near our home church on the central coast of California, but it is a very expensive place to live. Would you please pray for God's provision for this need?



*Nukna children in Siang village*



*Matt documenting the Weliki language*



## Giving

**By Mail:** Make a check payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators, with a separate note indicating "preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Matt and Christy Taylor." Mail to Wycliffe Bible Translators, PO Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862-8200.

**Online:** Go to <http://www.wycliffe.org/Partnership.aspx?mid=F97C6E> Please note: 2.7% of gifts made by credit or debit card will be charged to us as a transaction fee.



## Contact Us

Matt and Christy Taylor  
SIL Box 1 (288)  
Ukarumpa EHP 444  
Papua New Guinea

[m-c.taylor@sil.org.pg](mailto:m-c.taylor@sil.org.pg)  
[matt.taylor@sil.org](mailto:matt.taylor@sil.org)  
[www.taylormissions.com](http://www.taylormissions.com)

## top to bottom:

- 1) Christy teaching preschool
- 2) Nukna men swapping out termite-infested timbers on our village house
- 3) Justin & Julianne at the primary school's Sports Day
- 4) Nathan playing percussion in the marching band