



June: holiday in Tirol, Austria



Dear friends,

Since our last newsletter, a lot has happened. First of all: Nina just graduated from high school. No more high schoolers at home! While Mattie just finished her first year at university, Nina will stay home for a little while: she took a job cleaning houses for elderly people, and end of this year she plans to start a Discipleship Training School with YWAM (probably in Australia, though the plan is not set in concrete...) This will also give her some more time to decide what studies she'll start next year.

So right now we're down to three people in the house, and soon it will be just the two of us...

My (Paulus') work is also changing over time. As you may remember, over the past years a lot of time and energy has gone into the **Nukuoro** project: together with translator Betty Amon, assisted by her team, we checked the whole Bible (that's about 31,000 verses). Last year, we did a second check; in April this year I worked with Betty on Guam for a week, where we were able

to deal with the last 400 questions about the translation. Of course, at that stage most questions were about small details, though there were still a couple of Biblical key terms that needed a final bit of thought. This means that the Nukuoro project is now in the final stage. Betty is working on introductions to the Bible books, while we've also been selecting pictures. Pray for time and energy for Betty, who is also taking care of her mother.

Early this year we got an email from Richard Ligiteiwel on the island of **Yap**, who coordinates translation work in the **Satawal** language. This is one of the languages in Micronesia that are part of the Isles of the Sea project (see [www.isles-of-the-sea.org](http://www.isles-of-the-sea.org)).

Richard wrote that his team had finished the first version of the New Testament and would like to print a number of copies, so people could read and review it. So we had the NT printed in a small trial edition and sent to Yap. Some books were distributed on Yap, others were sent to their home island, Satawal itself.

The Satawal team also needed somebody to help checking their translation. So in April I spent a week on Yap (a 90 min. flight from Guam), and met some people of the Satawal team. Together, we made a start on checking the Gospel of Mark. Richard himself wasn't there, but after my visit we continued the check remotely: I put my questions in the translation, he replies or discusses them with his team. Afterwards, I review the changes in the translation. It looks like this is working out well.

While I'm writing this, I just got back from a second visit to Yap. This time Richard was there, as well as other team members – it is the summer holidays, and many of his relatives are staying at his place, before going back to Satawal island in August. It was a lively scene! (You could check out a short video at [www.openboek.org](http://www.openboek.org); it's spoken in Dutch, but gives an idea of what our sessions looked like.) We continued checking the Gospel of Mark and also discussed many spelling issues.

On Yap I also met with the **Woleai** translation team. This team has translated most of the NT, but has slowed down due to various reasons (deaths, people moving to the States, and so on). We had a couple of

good meetings. One of the team members, pastor Peter Haleyalgiy (who is passionate about getting the translation finished) is going to set up a second review team, so two groups can continue to review the books they have translated.

After Yap I took a flight to **Palau**. Just as in Yap, there are two minority languages working on Bible Translation: **Tobi** and **Sonsorol**. They make separate translations, but work together as one team. Both have translated all or most of the New Testament in first draft, though it will need various checks. This week I'm working with them: learning more about their language and making plans for the future.

Altogether, this means that I'm now spending part of my time on the Micronesian languages. This also means learning new languages, at least enough to understand the translation. Fortunately, all four languages are closely related.

When I get back home next week, the two of us are going on a one-week cycling trip in the Netherlands. We're looking forward to that!

*Lots of love,  
Antje & Paulus*



July: Translation checking with the Satawalese team!



April: Easter sunrise service on Yap