

2016 in Review

There were many blessings and challenges in 2016. It was a great blessing to see the Takwane Scriptures published and distributed in both print and electronic forms despite health issues and political unrest in Mozambique. We are still praising the Lord that he gave us the opportunity to see the Takwane translation program through to fruition. Please continue to pray that God will use his Word to change many lives among the Takwane.

We are also thankful for the many opportunities we had to share our experience through consulting. Peg did translation checking for three languages in 2016. It is challenging work that she enjoys and that gives her new insights into the Word of God. Jeff helped translators and linguists on every inhabited continent with a variety of issues related to using the translation software, Paratext, and issues related to making dictionaries. He was part of the team that made the initial training materials for the major new version of Paratext and helped present those materials to folks from the major translation organizations at a workshop in Thailand. It is a privilege to be part of a major advance in the process of Bible translation.

You all blessed us in 2016 with your faithful financial support. It was a great encouragement to us that we finished the year in the black at 102% of our ministry budget. Thank you!

We were blessed that Maggie Jo had another good year at LeTourneau University.

2016 brought significant health challenges as Peg began treatment for reconstruction of the wound left over from her skin cancer surgery from 2014. She endured three surgeries in a two month span. Since the surgeries were only partially successful, another surgery will be needed this year. She has an appointment at the Wound Center on Monday morning for an evaluation. They will then refer her to the plastic surgeon in their group that is appropriate for her care plan. She is also fighting a fungal infection in the wound. Pray for the medicine she is on to be effective. Also pray for wisdom for us and the doctors.

Upcoming in 2017

Jeff will be working to get the online training for Paratext 8 ready to coincide with the release in April. The release of Paratext 8 has been delayed several times. Please pray that all the testing will be done and all the issues resolved by then. Jeff will be helping translators in Southern Africa make the transition to the new version and the cloud-based system that controls it after the release.

Peg will continue developing her consulting skills and will continue checking translations. She has also been asked to supervise the translation of exegetical helps for translators into Portuguese. She is working with Helen Cutter who is translating the helps for Galatians. Helen is blind so Peg is facing some new challenges. Fortunately, Helen has done this for a while so she can train Peg how to help her! She is also working with Timothy Bachman as he reviews Helen's translation of the helps for Matthew. Please pray for clear thinking and good health for Helen and Timothy. These helps are much needed for the mother tongue translators that have never attended Bible school. As was already mentioned Peg will have one more surgery early in the year. We will share with you when that will happen. You can check on her health anytime by finding her at <https://www.caringbridge.org/signin>

Maggie Jo has started the final semester of her junior year. She has added courses in aviation to her Biblical Studies degree to work towards an Aircraft Dispatcher certificate. This is a challenging field that is in high demand. Pray for her as this will add to her load at school.

Until all have heard,

Peg, Jeff and Maggie Jo

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"Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Jeff and Peg Shrum, account #303695."

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