

# Word of God, speak...

*Dear Friends,*

This is Pastor Julius of Calvary Chapel, Sagpat Christian Church, in Zambales. **In his hands is the Botolan Sambali New Testament. It is the language of the people in his Church.**

Last December, while preparing for an outreach event with our church in Manila, we were pretty sure that Tagalog (the National Language) was NOT the most understood language in that area. SIL has been a part of several translation projects in that region, some of which are yet to be completed. With a little research we were able to choose two translations we thought could be the right one.

As Andrew presented the two Bibles to Pastor Julius, his eyes lit up when he saw the Botolan Sambali text. ***It was the first time He had ever seen the Word of God in this language!***

For the rest of the day, this precious gift never left his hands!

**This is why we do what we do!** Pastor Julius told us, “*The people have Bibles in Tagalog, but they don’t really understand, this (holding up the Botolan Sambali Bible) they will understand!*” He asked us if we could produce more of them. On that day we were blessed to be able to tell the Pastor that in our book depository we already have hundreds of this precious book. We are making plans to take a truck load of these Bibles out to Sagpat, ***so the Word of God will speak to the people in the language of their Heart.***

God continues to affirm in us that the work we are doing in Manila is valuable to the progress of Bible Translation in the Philippines and other parts of Asia. Thank you for your partnership, and thank you for taking the time to read our letter updating you on the ministry you are part of. Here’s a bit of what we’ve been up to lately.

Serving with you,

*Andrew & Melissa*

## In the shop:

There are no shortage of projects and repairs to do in the maintenance department as Andrew manages the buildings and grounds. The maintenance needs keep coming in as he and three other men keep the requests moving along. The daily rains and devastating typhoons of last fall have given way to Manila’s other season: Hotter (not a typo). While it is nice to not be fixing roof leaks, everything is a bit too hot and dry. Just this last week three different air conditioners malfunctioned, so Andrew has some opportunity to put his HVAC training to use as they work to get them going again. Other projects include: continued guest house remodeling projects, phone system maintenance, and building cabinets/shelves. Please pray for wisdom as Andrew fields all the different maintenance needs.

## Vernacular Media:

On occasion we have mentioned Melissa’s training and work in Vernacular Media (VM). Last fall she took part in a few projects which reignited her passion for this work. In February, Melissa set up a temporary studio and recorded the narration track to a video featuring Ayta Abellen. The New Testament translation for this people group is still in progress. Praise God for a successful recording. This was a first for Melissa without a VM team to assist on the project. Pray for more VM opportunities for Melissa. Pray also for the changing and developing role of VM Services in the Philippines.



### Coordinating Member Care and Managing the Guest House:

Melissa has been incredibly busy as Member Care Coordinator and Guest House Manager. In the area of Member Care she has spent significant time over the last several months helping a senior colleague navigate through various health issues. Relating to doctors, having surgery, and of course dealing with insurance can be difficult no matter where in the world you live. As always these are important issues that take significant time to work through. This role is vital to helping our co-workers deal with health, work, and other personal issues. Much of the time just being a listening ear and an information source is enough to make a difference.



Managing the Guest House also includes oversight of the seven apartments located on our center. We are often fully booked with no beds to spare! In one week last month, we saw over 100 guests travel through Manila and stay at the Guest House. The remodeling of the large dining and living room areas are complete. We've begun work on a new manager's office, and a multi-purpose room for games, leisure library, TV viewing, and internet use.

Since SIL is in the process of vacating two of our locations in the Philippines, the Manila Guest House is a critical area of need for our group. Since our Northern and Southern locations are closing, housing has become a challenge. Many, particularly our language teams, are in need of frequent short-term housing in Manila. Please pray for this challenging transition, as we seek to meet the needs of our colleagues.

### Kids Corner:

Vivian and Anna stay late after school two times a week for swim club. They have been greatly increasing their swimming skills. Vivian is also part of a puppet ministry and had her first performance last Sunday. Anna had the lead role in a skit her class performed in Chapel. Both are great performers!



Both are studying their Tagalog (national language) on the computer with our new Rosetta Stone software. They are enjoying it! Yes, it works. Yes it's infinitely better than language school at the beginning stage.

Not to be outdone, little Alli is about to graduate from the Nursery Level in her school this month. She will be on her way to Faith Academy with the big kids in the fall to start kindergarten (she's in a Filipino "preschool" now).

Nicole and Nelfa are living with us and we love having a sweet baby in the house! Nicole is five months old now, laughing, smiling and giggling. She's a doll!.

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### Keeping in touch:

Please write or email us changes to your contact information:

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### Partnership:

To share financially in our ministry:  
You may send a check payable to  
**Wycliffe Bible Translators**  
Please include a note designating funds for  
Andrew Reichenbacher, Acct # 284695  
Checks should be mailed to Wycliffe.

### Prayer and Praise:

Praise God for our partners who provided for all of (our helper) Nelfa's hospital expenses.

Pray for provision and wisdom as we deal with Melissa and Anna's ongoing healthcare needs.

Praise God for keeping us safe as Philippine Government elections draw nearer.

Pray for our family's spiritual health and growth.

Praise God for the faithfulness of our partnership team.

Pray for provision for the girls' tuition next Fall.