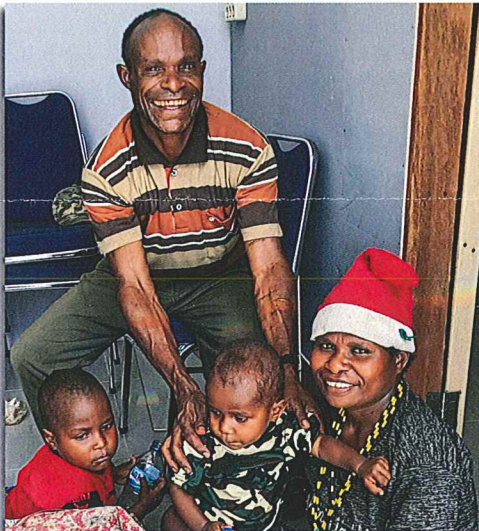


The Ringenberg Reader

Serving together to bring help, hope, and healing through aviation in Papua, Indonesia

Bumani and his family, recently returning to their tribe via MAF after being treated in town for illness (photo by Brian Marx)



Over the years, these missionaries learned the Moi language and culture, taught literacy, and began to tell about the Creator God who had made the Moi and loved them. After they taught from Creation to Christ, a Moi church was born!

Bumani became a believer, but at the command of his family to carry out “capital punishment” on a wicked murderer, Bumani did. This act again spiraled him into a season of spiritual darkness. But because of God’s forgiveness, Bumani truly began to change and grow and is now a pillar of the Moi church.



Bumani praying for Dave, with Steve (right) translating

Bumani’s Story

Born into the remote Papuan Moi tribe, Bumani (pronounced Boo-men-ee) grew up in spiritual darkness. His mother killed his weaker twin at birth because of cultural beliefs that the smaller baby was really an evil spirit. The Moi lived in fear of the spirits.

In 2000, two strange white men landed in a loud, frightful-sounding flying machine (a helicopter), and ended up bringing their families to take up residence with the Moi.



Dave with the group of family and guests that he flew in for the Moi New Testament dedication

Dave met Bumani when he flew in guests for the Moi New Testament dedication that was happening in January. Bumani overheard Dave explain to Steve, the missionary, that our family couldn’t join in the celebration because he needed to go to Singapore and have surgery for skin cancer that had appeared on his upper lip. Bumani came and told Steve that he wanted to pray for the pilot.

He placed his hand on Dave’s head and prayed for God’s healing. The hand that once had been lifted to murder was now lifted in prayer. How beautiful to see what the gospel has done in this remote Moi tribe.

Moi New Testament Dedication

On January 4, the Moi people gathered on their airstrip, singing and dancing and praising God as the long-awaited boxes were unloaded from the plane. For the first time, the Moi people had a Bible in their own heart language!

Bumani declared that they were blessed to receive the Word of God in their mother tongue while they were still alive. Steve, missionary to the Moi, translated the Scriptures over a 20-year period. His wife, Carolyn, and six Moi villagers checked the grammar and comprehension.



Moi villagers help unload the boxes of New Testaments from the MAF airplane



Steve, Carolyn, and their two daughters holding a box of Bibles

MAF is privileged to partner with missionaries like these. Your prayers and support enable us to serve here, providing them with the air support needed to do their work of translation. Pray for the Moi, that they would continually feed their souls from God's Word, growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus.

(Photos by Heather Marx)

Update from our Family

With the help of Miguel (pictured right), a missionary dentist who was able to assist with a biopsy of a growth on Dave's upper lip, we learned that it was squamous cell carcinoma. God clearly directed us to go to Singapore so Dave could have Mohs surgery. After four layers of skin were removed, the surrounding tissue was cancer free. We are so thankful to the Lord for His healing, and for His provision of people like Miguel and others at just the right time to direct and support us along the way!



Miguel also uses MAF to do much-needed dentistry in interior villages

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

2 Corinthians 5:17

We Praise God For:

- ⇒ Helping us find good treatment for Dave's skin cancer in Singapore
- ⇒ The Moi New Testament Dedication
- ⇒ Proving His love for us by giving His only Son for our salvation

Please Pray For:

- ⇒ Ryan's high school as they are on their Outdoor Education village trip March 4th through 15th
- ⇒ Healing and protection from the enemy for our MAF family, as many have experienced illness lately
- ⇒ Continued wisdom for our flight operations in Indonesia

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