



Our Dearest Co-workers,

It has been awhile since we updated you on all of our comings and goings and personal lives so we thought we would take pen to paper (don't you miss those days? 😊) and send you some news.

We do all of our office work these days from our home-office in Carmen, Cagayan de Oro, which was built last year. It has been a wonderful provision from the Lord – a peaceful place with enough space where we can work very productively. Our video and commentary series on the Book of Acts is nearing completion which is very exciting. We already have 27 videos up on the web along with visual aids and study guides, and all of our churches are using this material and being blessed along with ourselves at the things God is teaching us from His Word.

Lord willing, we will be able to complete the whole series on Acts this year in the Talaandig language. Then following closely behind the Talaandig, we are also developing the same series in the Cebuano language which has about 20 million speakers. We are producing all of the Bible teaching series in Cebuano as well because there are quite a number of Cebuano churches now that our team has planted in all the areas we are working. The universal Cebuano church will also have access to these materials.

There is also a lot of work we need to do 'filling the gaps'. Our missionary teams and church ministry teams are doing an amazing job in leading the charge with evangelism and in discipleship and caring for each of the churches. But from time to time there are gaps that they need us to fill – sometimes a shoulder just to lean on, or to feel us as their spiritual parents standing in solidarity with them, or to sit into the night and brain-storm together and pray..... so we try to fill the gaps.

Our energy levels aren't what they used to be but we can still travel and hike a bit and we love to go and visit the churches and the ministry teams. Last weekend we went to the Ricodo area and spent half the day hanging out with the beautiful team in the picture at the top of this letter. It was such a precious time, sharing a meal together and then sitting in a circle and talking about each of their ministries for hours. Nanay on the very right of the picture in the blue top, has three grandsons who are all serving on our team as missionaries, and almost her entire family are serving in the church, following her example. She is still serving in spite of being in her late 70's and having frequent bouts of pain and weakness. Our evening was spent with Roel and Irene, who have headed up the missionary work there for 14 years now. We slept at their place. And the next morning Paul preached in the church there and there were a large number of people present including the Dato, or chieftain, who is now a believer and witnesses fervently to his fellow chieftains about Jesus.

I was also amazed to see a young mother, still pale and a bit weak from having given birth just one week before, who brought her new baby and came to hear the teaching.

Also a young man, 27 years old, who can hardly walk, crippled in all his legs and arms from birth, he came too from quite a distance and was sitting in the front seat. His testimony in the midst of his suffering is that Jesus will one day give him a new body and that he won't always be crippled and twisted.

We always come away from any place we visit just amazed at what God is doing, at His love in drawing us to Himself, at His power in keeping us.

Next weekend we will be visiting another one of our churches – one we actually have never been to before, although we have met many of the believers from there at conferences. It will be a great joy to sit with them in their own village and see where they meet together and to refresh them in their faith and be strengthened ourselves all over again as we see what God is doing there.





The picture above is the 3-4 year old church in Tingalan. Our outreach works start by meetings in homes or school buildings or market-places in new villages, but when the people listening to the Word grow to a group of about 30 faithful believers in Jesus, our churches in all the regions take up a collection and build them a simple building like the one in the picture above of the Tingalan church. Paul and I help to equip them with chairs, musical instruments, a computer and a data projector for their ministries.

As their numbers grow and they get too big for their small building that usually just has bamboo walls, we look to the Lord to do a building project for them and build a more secure and strong building with cement floors and walls, which is the plan for the Tingalan church we visited recently.

There are always several building projects underway and currently Paul has oversight of several large projects including a huge cement water tank for the church in Tumpagon, and preparation of materials for building a missionary home for Rudi and Precy in Lantud. They have been there now for over four months and the work there is growing at a very fast rate.

One of their outreaches is in an area called Limunsudan which has a large forested area. Please pray for the woman chieftain there who is a powerful figure, but she seems warm towards Rudy and Precy and to their team. It is an area with hundreds of people who need Jesus.



Thank you for your partnership in the work of the Gospel!

Thank you for your continual prayers and love that we feel very much.

Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! (2 Cor 9:15)

Much Love,

Paul and Deb