



Paul & Debbie Howells - Philippines



Our Dear Co-workers,

There are no words to let you know how precious your part is on the team reaching the lost here in Mindanao and building up the church of our Lord Jesus! Your prayers and thoughts and encouragements are such a vital and integral part of the ministry! All praise and glory to our wonderful and beautiful and powerful Lord Jesus!

We woke up this morning (very early as usual - built into our internal clock by years of village roosters crowing) to heavy clouds and rain, and distant thunder rumbling. I've always loved the sound of rain on the roof. It is a provision of the Lord to have rain filling the tank that was newly repaired at the Tumpagon church.

Paul and all the church leaders have been busy for a few weeks preparing for the annual Men's Conference to be held in Lapoc over Easter week. They wondered for a while if the increased fuel prices here and increases in the price of rice, would effect the conference. But DoyDoy, pastor of the San Miguel church, said, "If there's no rice, we can just eat lab-o." Lab-o is famine food here, known as the poisonous tuber of Asia. It can cause death if eaten as is, but prepared correctly it is safe to eat. Lab-o grows underground in the San Miguel area to huge tubers around 35 kg or more in weight. Thankfully though, I think there will be rice at the conference at least for most meals. And more than the meals, the men are eager for spiritual food and encouragement and fellowship. The theme of the conference is "Our Living Hope", and in this current situation in the world, we need to cling to our living hope!

Special news this month is that we have another couple from the Tumpagon church, C'Jun and Mara Daguing, and their little girl Shekinah, who are being sent out as full time missionaries next month. They will be living in Man-ai for a year of preparation and guidance under senior missionaries Jerrum and Aybi, and then sent out Lord willing to breaking ground. There is a whole new region, with a different language and multiple villages, where the elders are praying and feeling directed by the Lord to open up a new work. This location is on our southern flank. Please PRAY!!



C'Jun, Mara and Shekinah

Huge thanks to each of you for your prayers and also for the financial support you send in for the ministry here - all a great encouragement to us.

Much Love in the name of our Saviour, Jesus,
Paul and Deb