



Interconnections

Ministry Update from Rene and Lani Quimbo serving in the Philippines with PMI

Dear friends,

We are grateful to God for sending Mr. Pete Johnson from **Central Presbyterian Church** (St. Louis, Missouri) in April to minister to us and with us. He gave the message during the vesper service and prayer meeting in **Opol** church and during the Friday fellowship in **Lacolac** church. He sang a few songs and played the guitar as well which truly gladdened the heart of both congregations. The children in Lacolac church were pleasantly surprised to receive gifts from Central Presbyterian Church children. Pete’s visit and what he represented brought afresh the truth of the *mutual connection of believers in Jesus Christ*.



Pete giving the message during vesper service in Opol church; Lani translating it in the vernacular



Pete with the Lacolac church congregation

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In June, the Lacolac church celebrated its 20th anniversary. With all the challenges the church faced throughout the years, we all could only praise the Lord for keeping the church standing firm on One foundation, Jesus Christ, her Lord. Also, the baccalaureate service for the graduating students of the Lacolac Elementary School was held at our church. As always, we were thankful to God for the opportunity to preach an evangelistic message to the students and their parents, relatives, and teachers.

20th Anniversary - Lacolac church



One of the teachers giving encouragement to the graduating students during the baccalaureate service



The construction of the new church building is almost done. The sickness, death of a carpenter's family member, the carpenters getting sick themselves, or their family problems are just few of the many reasons for the delay of the construction. *We are hoping to hold the first worship service in the new church building on the last Sunday of July.* We are glad that some church members volunteered to help out such as assisting in electrical wiring work and painting.

Some friends are donating kitchen appliances, tables and chairs for the activity center, additional chairs for the sanctuary, shelves, and other needs. We are looking forward to minister to the people in our new neighborhood. Already, we have made plans to reach out to the youth and children in the community through *Daily Vacation Bible School*, and to start *Bible studies* in the homes of the relatives of some members of our church.



New church building under construction



Activity area of the new church building (first floor); pastor's office, store room



Sanctuary area (2nd Floor)

We have several students from the **Lacolac** church who are moving up. *Rhea and Richard* will start high school this August, while *Sharlyn* will start college this July. Sharlyn's parents are a bit troubled since it will be her first time to live in the city, and having lived up in the mountain community her entire life brought so many concerns to them. It is good that *Coco*, a member of the praise and worship team in Opol church, has recently graduated from high school and is also going to the same college as Sharlyn. Hopefully, he could help her adjust to her new environment.

Our brothers and sisters, we have our share of challenges from many fronts this quarter. One ministry volunteer left the ministry center in Lacolac without asking for permission. Soon after, her father who was the foreman of the construction of the new church building, just left the work without informing us, together with other two carpenters who were his relatives. We scheduled a meeting with them, however, they refused to come. Now the whole family (including married family members) moved to another church. *"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few"* aptly describes our current situation. May the Lord raise up committed

servants to work along side us for the long haul. Moreover, we experience monthly budget shortfall for sometime now. **It is only by the grace of God that we are able to continue** to implement necessary ministry programs. We covet your prayers.

Dear friends, please accept our heartfelt gratitude for all that you are to us. ***Your prayers and your financial gifts are very much appreciated and needed.*** Please know that you are all faithfully prayed for.

In Him,

Rene and Lani

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