



Interconnections

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

Dear Friends,

We started the new year with a church family fellowship in Mampang, Zamboanga City. **The joy came from the deepening interaction among the brethren --- truly becoming a shared life in Christ.** Special presentations and fun games followed the worship service. It was also during this fellowship that the family who left the church to return to the Muslim faith **came back to worship.** In tears, during the sharing time for prayer requests and thanksgiving, a member of this family asked for forgiveness, expressed repentance for turning away from Christ and recommitted the family back to the Christian faith.

The plan to hold the **first Youth Jam** was finalized towards the end of last year. During the first quarter of this year, the church people working with the

youth are busy with various preparations --- materials for lectures and small discussion groups, team-building activities, praise and worship, and fun games. **This event is scheduled on April 15-17.** The Portal Christian Church in El Salvador City is hosting this event. Please pray for the safe travel of Zamboanga City youth participants (16-hour bus ride one way) and from Lacolac, Bukidnon. *Please also pray with us that this gathering will result in a lasting, positive transformation as they purposely answer God's call to excellent living as believers.*

Since January, **Isoy** (one of our deacons in Lacolac), became in charge of the youth Bible study and fellowship. Knowing that these ministries to the youth are critical to developing a firm spiritual foundation, the goal is to help our youth **understand the Bible and apply biblical knowledge** to their daily lives, and to grow to have a strong personal commitment to God. The youth are also encouraged to apply biblical truths through community service.



Games after the worship service in the Zamboanga City church



Discussion meeting of church team in charge of the forthcoming Youth Jam

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A prayer walk around the community in Lacolac was organized early this March. The prayer walk team focused on interceding through praying for the people, places and circumstances being observed.



Isoy, a deacon in Lacolac Christian Church, teaching youth Sunday school

Some households invited us into their house to read the bible and to pray for them. What a great opportunity not only to be more aware of what's going on in the lives of the people in the community, but also to get connected and get more involved in their lives through prayers. To be able to read God's word to families who do not go to church and to be able to sow seeds of blessing bring out joyful anticipation of how God will work in their midst.

A soon to be 12th grader, **Peter John**, who lives with us in the mountain ministry center (he plans to pursue biblical studies) had a motorcycle accident a week ago. He was trying to avoid a pool of water on the road only to hit a pile of wood. He fractured his right wrist and suffered dislocation of the wrist bones. Since the operation (using stainless steel plate) is very expensive, the doctor suggested to use bone cement. *Please pray with us that his wrist will be restored to normal function.*



Peter John in the hospital being treated of his injuries from a motorcycle accident

The energy crisis in our country brought about by security unrest in the Middle East has made life extra challenging for the majority of Filipinos. Oil price has more than doubled and the cost of basic commodities is rising. Many of the members of our congregation are affected, especially those working in the food delivery services, construction, and transportation. There is panic buying, but mostly panic and no buying. There are rumors of lockdown in the months ahead. In Lacolac (mountain ministry), people are clearing more areas for planting root crops, bananas and vegetables. Here in the city, church members are starting car pooling to church. Those who live not too far away from church are no longer taking public transportation but walk to church. *Let's pray that the Middle East security issues will be resolved soon.*

Dear friends, we are grateful for your partnership in spreading the gospel and impacting lives of people God has graciously and intentionally connected us with. Your faithful prayers and generous gifts have enabled us to continue to minister to the members and worshippers in our churches and to continue to hold home bible studies, engage in outreach ministries in various communities, in government offices and public schools.

You truly are a blessing to us.

In Him,
Rene & Lani

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