



# Interconnections

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

Dear Friends,

Time and time again, God opens our eyes to His marvelous workings in our midst.

The first youth gathering participated in by selected youth from our 3 churches in **Zamboanga City, El Salvador City, and Lacolac, Baungon, Bukidnon** was successfully held in Cagayan de Oro City last April 15-17, 2026.

We had a fruitful ministry among the youth with Andy Gunn and Mary Ann Stark from Central Presbyterian Church. Their presence, especially for the youth participants from Muslim background (Zamboanga City) and from the indigenous highland community (Lacolac), deepened their understanding of Christian brotherhood that transcends cultural differences, *our unity in the body of Christ*. Funds to defray expenses pertinent to the Youth Jam came from unexpected sources adding to the wonder we felt of God's sufficiency so that we did not lack anything.



Long after the Youth Jam was concluded, our youth continue to challenge each other to practice what they have learned from the theme "Called to Excel". An echo seminar on the said theme was scheduled in Lacolac and El Salvador churches in the month of May. The echo seminar in Zamboanga City will be held during the first week of August.

There was this huge mango tree near our church building in El Salvador City. We were concerned that children and youth in the community will throw stones at the fruits and cause damage to the glass windows. A few days later the mango tree was uprooted by strong winds, and fell perfectly between our church building and the nearby house causing zero damage to both structures. God watches over us and shields His blessings from harm, bringing us peace and comfort.



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On June 8, residents on coastal communities in Zamboanga City were ordered by the local government authorities to evacuate due to tsunami warning. Fifteen families, mostly members of our church, took refuge under our church building located in Mampang, which is adjacent to Arena Blanco. Some years ago, two sisters Rasmaina and Bebinda and their families started to worship with us. Due to some tragic incidents in their families (deaths of twin grandchildren and grave illness, respectively) their mother, Edita,

Devotional with the earthquake evacuees at our church in Mampang



urged them to leave the church insisting that said tragedies were punishments for leaving the Muslim faith. Several years later the families of Rasmaina and Bebinda returned to the church. The evacuees included Edita's family. The boundless depth of God's mercy was gloriously displayed in our midst. The devotional and prayer times at the church were opportunities God afforded them to experience His gracious care.

23<sup>rd</sup> Lacolac Christian Church anniversary celebration



The 23<sup>rd</sup> church anniversary in Lacolac was celebrated last June 14. It was a time of festivity and joy as we honor the enduring faithfulness of God since the beginning. Our hearts were full of thanksgiving for God's grace that has sustained our church family throughout years.

Dear friends, thank you for strong prayer and generous giving for the work. Your kindness has met real needs and we are truly blessed. This quarter, several adults, youth and children who have recently attended our bible studies have committed their lives to Christ. Please pray for God's continuing favor of drawing them closer to Him, to church services and fellowship. May we live a life pleasing to the Lord.

In Him,  
**Rene & Lani**

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