

Dear Friends and Partners:

We want to give you an update from the Philippines. First we want to thank all of you for praying for us; we feel your prayers and we sense God's protection surrounding us. In the last few days we have experienced our first typhoon and first earthquake since our family moved to the Philippines. Fortunately neither one had much impact on our area.

We were on the edge of typhoon Mitag. We experienced a lot of heavy pouring rain but the winds were not very strong in our area. We are near a rainforest and it seems that this area can soak up a lot of rain without having to worry about mudslides. On Tuesday, about noon our time, there was a 6.0 earthquake centered about 100 miles north of us. Suzzhette felt it and saw the motion. I did not feel it at all and I told her it was just the wind. In our region it was barely noticeable by most people. What is interesting is that we are in between Manila and the epicenter but the quake was felt much stronger in Manila than in our area.

Probably the most dramatic thing we have faced so far was when Joshua, our 8 year old son, got really sick about a week ago. We are not sure, but it could have been something he ate. It came on him really fast. We had just arrived home after going to Olongapo one evening. We were walking from the driveway and Joshua said dad I don't feel good. A minute later he was vomiting and he vomited all night, it seemed about every half hour. He had to lay with the fan blowing on him all night but he only had a slight fever. He was better the next day but it took about three days to fully recover from the ordeal. Also Shekinah, our 4 year old girl, had the same thing at the same time but it was much milder and she only vomited one time. We thank God for His healing. We often read Psalms 91 here and we claim all the promises.

There are many things that we have been working on to improve the house and the landscaping. We are painting since the place has never been painted before. When we came the grass was very high, it has not been maintained. We get a lot of

rain because we are near a rain forest and that makes the grass grow tall and fast.



This is the kids in the backyard. Yes, the grass behind them is our yard it just needs to be mowed.



This is after we had the grass under control. Cutting the grass also improves the view here.

Although things move slower in the Philippines than in the US we are very happy with the way things are going here. I learned a long time ago that you need to learn to go with the flow in the Philippines or you will go crazy. We have the ball rolling in several ways now. Some of the most

important things are the relationships with people that we are establishing.

We had our first meeting with the Outreach Missions pastors and it was a wonderful time of fellowship in the Lord. One of the things we are doing in the Philippines is overseeing the Outreach Missions churches that were founded by Pastor Radford Hull.

They have two churches and three pastors. We were asked by Pastor Radford to oversee them. Although these pastors have very little they are some of the most dedicated people I have met and it is a privilege to be associated with them. We pray that the Lord will use us to strengthen these churches and edify the leadership in the churches.



Suzzhette and I, Pastor Myrna (Suzzhette's aunt) then Pastor Violeta, Pastor Jess, and Pastor Santiago; the three on the right are the OMI pastors

We are also reconnecting with people I met last year and we are meeting new people that the Lord is bringing our way. We are also establishing some good relationships with neighbors. Some of the people have expressed interest in our starting a Bible study at our home. We believe this will lead to establishing a fellowship here. We are also making progress in getting our house fixed up to receive visitors.

After doing much research and getting a lot of local advice we have signed a contract to begin drilling a water well at the house property. They will begin working next week.

I also did a lot of investigation about vehicles and have made a down payment on a used Toyota van that just came in from Japan. Since a big part of our budget is going to the vehicle and the well I have been very cautious and feel peace that these are the right decisions. Both of which are very

much needed for us to function here. The vehicle will not be available for about 2 to 3 weeks because of needing to get the license and clearing all the import red tape.

After we get the vehicle we will travel to Manila and meet with the church leadership of a church we hope to work with there. They are in a very poor area of the city and that is where we want to have an outreach to the poor and street kids. We will be looking for ways to work together with the church in developing a program.

The city that we are closest to is Olongapo and it also has some poor street kids also. We have been able to get to know some of them, a little bit. Our whole family was really touched by a boy we met named Limwell. He is 15 but because of malnutrition he was only a little taller than Joshua who just turned eight years old. We met Limwell begging on the street and we took him to lunch with us. He was very dirty, from head to foot, and all he had was a dirty t-shirt and shorts, no shoes of course. His feet had wounds that really need to be treated.

That day we fed several hungry street kids. We also got to see how they interact in their own subculture. Kids like Limwell get picked on and taken advantage of by bigger and more aggressive kids who are like bullies. We can really see the need for being able to rescue the humble vulnerable kids out of that situation. We wanted to try and connect with Limwell's family but we were not able to that day. Our goal is to reach the whole family whenever possible we know that this is important in really making a life changing difference for these kids.

The next time we went to Olongapo we made sandwiches so that we could give them out to hungry street kids however we could not find any of them. It seems that the police have cleaned out the street kids for now. That happens sometimes when they think the city is getting a bad impression. They take the kids to jail or an institution for processing. We will continue to try to find Limwell and the other kids. I believe we will eventually.

Our whole family has compassion for the street kids. It was wonderful to see how our children were really be touched by the situation of the kids there. The last few times we have been to Olongapo we have not seen the street kids but we are always looking for them. We will continue to try and find out what happened to them. There is much we still need to learn here. That is a big part of what are doing now, learning.

We found out that we can get a good internet connection here, which we really need for the Internet ministry. We have applied for the service and we are just waiting for the approval of our application. Hopefully by next week we will hear from them. The cost may be about \$100 dollars per month, much higher than it would be in the US. Because of the Internet ministry it is a necessary expense. The connection will allow us to have several computers connected to the Internet. As we get people to help us with the Internet ministry we will need to add computer stations for people to work in.

We are going to build an office onto our house where we will base the Internet ministry out of. The office will also have a library of ministry books including some reference materials. When pastors come to visit us they will be able to read the books and also use the Internet to download other ministry resources.

In the Philippines many of the pastors are very poor and can not afford any books other than a Bible. However, they are hungry to learn and really appreciate having access to other materials that can help them grow spiritually. Even just being able to get the music and guitar chords for worship songs is such a blessing to them. We take so much for granted in the US.

We are all healthy and doing well at this time. Life is much different here but we are all adapting well. However, we miss friends and family, of course. We also especially miss our church family at Gateway and our Life Group. We love you all and really appreciate your love, support, and prayers.

Our prayer request at this time is for an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit in this region. We also pray for continued favor with the people and wisdom in every area. We also need to find someone who can help with the Internet ministries. We have met many local people with different skills and talents who are helping us with the house and other things here. But it is a rural area and I may need to look a little further away to find people who have some computer skills. We are praying that the Lord will connect us with the right person or people to help with that ministry also. The Lord is continuing to use the SeekGod.org web site to reach so many people around the world. We are very thankful for the testimonies we receive.

This is one we received today...

Joseph, Son, Chicago, United States; Comment: Awesome one of the best Christian Sites. I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for your web site. It helped my through difficult times that I faced last year. I have since accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior and continue to read about the WORD!! Found By: I just went to Google and typed the following: Seeking God

Thank you partners for being such a blessing to us, and for helping us to bless others. We are praying for all of our partners everyday. We love you.

For those who would like to help us financially you can send your gifts to our mailing address in the US:

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