



Christ for the Philippines Mission



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Sending Church: Midway Baptist Church - 4777 Hoffmeyer Rd - Darlington, SC 29532

Tony & Ypille Tirse

September / October 2017

Greetings to all in the majestic Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord has continued to show Himself amazing in our ministry. As we continue to preach the gospel to the rural areas of northern Leyte, God continues to bless with a remnant that gladly receives His Word. Since our last newsletter we have seen 26 souls profess to have received Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, and have baptized three. And as of this newsletter we have seven committed to be baptized this coming week.

We have had many new visitors coming to church, especially young people, whom we have had Bible studies with in their homes before bringing them into the church house. There is an excitement in the air because we have some new soul-winners from our membership and they are beginning to see the fruit of their labor.

We were blessed to have had our charter service on August 12th and it was a spectacular day. After almost three years of assembling ourselves together, we formally organized and chartered as one of the Lord's local New Testament Baptist Churches. But as I told them all, this is just the beginning! There is, of course, a lot of work to do to reach dying souls with the Light and the Life of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

And God has indeed blessed us with new laborers and new souls. But now we have run into a new challenge. We have outgrown our ministry vehicle's capacity. The vehicle we currently have will seat 10 passengers comfortably. But we are hauling sometimes as many as 20+ per trip in it. Most of our members and attendees are rural people who live quite a distance from the church house. They gladly attend, but can only come if picked up because they cannot afford the fares (in some cases for entire families) to come to church. Many of these are very faithful in coming because we can pick them up. The ones who live nearby are no problem.

But we are desiring to go into new villages, and there is always a good response to our soul-winning efforts, but we will have to hold off for now because there is no way to get them in to the church services and activities with our current situation. Remember, we are not ministering in the city, where transportation is cheap and abundant. We are ministering to the rural, untouched by the gospel. And there is a great harvest there, but these are the poorest people and five miles to them is like 50 miles to us.

So we are starting a new ministry vehicle project. We are seeking to raise at least \$10,000 to purchase a larger, commercial diesel passenger truck/bus/van that is rated for at least 20 passengers, which means we can pile 40 in it! This, in addition to our current little mini-truck, should suffice for the next few years.

We are asking you to pray about this need and to send any love offerings to our sending church:

Midway Baptist Church
4777 Hoffmeyer Rd.
Darlington, SC 29532
Pastor Jamie Weatherford - 843-245-6612.

Our First Furlough Planned for 2018

We are happy to announce our plans for our first furlough this coming January to April 2018. It has been almost four years since we have been home, and time flies these days. Our furlough, however, is not really for rest, but for work. We would love to visit all of our supporting churches but that simply will not be possible, given the limited amount of time we will be back in the States. Why only three months back, you may ask? Because the work is very great and too new here to be left for any longer than that.

My heart's desire is that we would not have to return home so soon, but it is necessary since we have had a drop off in support over the last couple of years and we need to seek new supporting churches. It is unfortunate that this is the state of Christianity today, where churches renege on their commitments to support the missionaries on the field who are doing the work and rely on that support.

So we will be seeking to visit new churches to present our work and ministry for support. We do ask, if you are a supporting church, to help us find churches in your area that are seeking to take on an established and growing mission work. If you can do this, we may be able to visit you as well! The dates that we have planned to be in the US are January 23 to April 23. We are already booked in February but still have the months of March and April open. We are looking to fill every Sunday and Wednesday service as well as any missions conferences.

We pray that we will get to see some of you during our furlough as we appreciate and love all of you for your love and support over the years. Please have a part in making this furlough a success by helping us get meetings. We do not have a way to call the US by phone and many pastors are weary of answering emails from missionaries overseas. We also ask that you keep us and our church here in prayer while we are traveling.

We thank our mighty God for allowing us this privilege to return home for a short while and we are already praising Him for the great things that He will do. Our hearts are overflowing with joy because of the great work He hath wrought here with these precious Filipino souls, using unworthy wretches like us.

God bless you, because He lives,
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