

*from the Philippines*

*"Redeeming the time  
because the days are evil."*

*Rick & Gaylene Fannin*



**Dec 2015—Feb 2016**

**Dear Pastor Bailey and Church,**

Thanksgiving here is rather mild. We do have a time to reflect on the wonderful blessings of the Lord. Feasting is not so much and of course there is no Friday shopping crazies. We just arrived back to Roxas City from a great and encouraging Spiritual Leadership conference in Manila put together by Pastor Paul Chappell with the help of some of Manila's Baptist pastors. We took our National Pastor and one of upper college married students. Pray for them and me as we apply all we heard to our own ministries.

We have to correct a fact we stated in our last letter. We have only received \$4000 not \$5000 for the Yolanda Typhoon damage repair of our first church. It needs a completely new roof. It is 300 sq meters in size and has quite a span for the roof. We have purchased the steel to make the trusses and a welding machine to weld. We praise the Lord that there are 2 of our students that can weld. Just that steel for the trusses costs over \$2000. We need cement and block to repair the damaged walls and make the roof typhoon proof as possible. We need the farlings that go across the trusses and then of course the roofing material the goes on top and paint. Please continue to pray for this project and the financial need to get it done. It is in the heart of the city and it needs a working church there. We see great potential in getting that work back up and running. The estimate just to do the roof is \$15,000.

December is a very busy month. Bible School was out for the month, so the students had great opportunity for soulwinning and 2 week vacation. We had our annual Jesus Birthday Party Sunday and New Years Eve time of preaching and fireworks in December. January is our stewardship and missions month and the emphasis was on "Soulwinning". It is a form of stewardship and of course is part of the great commission. We had a good increase in the Faith Promise Mission Giving committed for this year. We have always encourage all our members to get involved in soulwinning. It is a command and not a suggestion. Our church theme/emphasis for the whole year is getting more people trained and out sharing the gospel and seeing even more saved. Of course that leads and requires even better discipleship. Our final total for the year for salvations 3579 and our baptisms is 286. Pray that leaders and our faithful folk will be able to encourage the not so faithful to get involved with reaching the lost.

We had two of our members go to heaven in December. Bro Garcia, a rather new Christian, had a bad heart. He left orders with his family that he was not to go through the Catholic church to get buried and how he wanted a funeral at his church. They have rather long wakes here so we provided services most evenings in their home. Many of the neighbors and family got saved. The other one that is with the Lord was one of our young men, John John Barona. It was a tragic motorcycle accident. It happened on a Saturday night and all the family was in church Sunday for all the services. There neighbors could not understand how they could do that. But they don't understand it was the best place for them to be.

Thanks to the Lord providing a caring individual we were able to complete the repair on our one jeepney and it looks brand new. Pray that our van will hold together for a little while longer, until there are funds to fix it.

We are headed for the states for a longer furlough than we have done before. After 22 years this will be the longest one and only about the 4th time I have been in the states. We would like to touch base with some of our supporting churches and raise our support level. It has always been low. We want the ability to help more of our graduates start churches. If it's the Lord's will, we want to build up the college but it needs more finances to function.

So Pray for finances to rebuild our first church, building and people. Pray for our members that they will become great soulwinners so more can be saved from hell. Pray finances for our other vehicle whose body is not too good. Pray for our time in the states that we will be always in God's will and see all financial needs met and for safety as we travel. Pray for ability to grow our college. Especially pray for the church and our National Pastor, Arnel Gevero, while we are in the states. Pray all will be faithful soulwinners, more faithful members, more to be discipled and faithful to the commitments they have made. We do praise the Lord that He has provided a vehicle for us to drive while there. We are truly grateful for all the prayers that go up for us. You have no idea what God does because of your prayers.

*For His Glory*

*Rick and Gaylene Fannin*

Thank you for your support Nov \$ 80 Dec \$ 80 Jan \$ 80

Thank you also for the \$100 for Christmas 😊

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