

Facets *of Fellowship*

NOVEMBER 2009

THE NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor's Perspective — Equipping Christ's Servants

By Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor



These were my students at the Word of Life Bible Institute in Calauan, Laguna Philippines. They come from all over the Philippines and are either in their second or third year at the School of Ministerial Studies. Their names are Ivan Zarzua, Sheilou Kinontao, Romnick Rabago, Christian Ceria, Jerry Fe Waslo, Lorenzo Padolina, Chester Matias, Lailina Godornes, Gerry Ordonia, Jojo Tangelan, Joanne Manrique, John Mark Fodra, Nelson Caballero, Lynzen Flores, Jason Tiosayco, Ana Monica Lingat, Xy-Za Cabanting, Jericho James Bernabe and Pol Suyu. I'm not showing you their picture because I expect that you will meet them this side of heaven, but that you will pray for them and in that way have a part in their ministries, for when you do meet them I suspect that they will have spent their lives in service to Christ as pastors, evangelists, Bible teachers and key leaders in churches and para-

church ministries throughout the Philippines.

The Philippines is a difficult place for most of the people who live there. Don't let the touristy ads deceive you, it is a third-world country—even in metro Manila, a city of fifteen million. There is extreme poverty there and throughout the countryside. People routinely walk miles to get drinking water and to wash their clothes in the river. They buy their food from day to day. Most don't own motorized transportation. They can't afford it.

A super typhoon named Ondoy came through Manila during my stay. At one point, seventeen inches of rain fell in one six hour period. In the course of the storm, four and a half feet of rain fell in the big city itself, displacing (or so you'd think) three million people from their homes—wood and tin-clad shacks. Now a week later, with the death toll over 500, the people are still in their homes though the water is still knee-deep in the streets and the mud ankle-deep in their homes.

These people and the more affluent will be those among who the students labor for Christ. It will be a hard life, but there is a palpable seriousness to these students that suggests to me that their service for Christ will be significant and result in the rewards of faithfulness. I thank Him for the privilege of having had a part, be it so ever small, of equipping them for that ministry.

The Place of Prayer in a Man's Life

Fellowship will have a men's retreat on November 20-21 at Skycroft Conference and Retreat Center in Middletown, Maryland. Skycroft offers comfortable accommodations, and a wide range of recreational activities. The retreat also affords the opportunity for beneficial quiet time and personal reflection, as well as informal fellowship. The cost is \$65 per person.

Missionary Paul Briggs has graciously agreed to serve as our speaker. He will be challenging our men to consider the place of prayer in their lives, recognizing that

this spiritual discipline is easily neglected by men who tend to be action-oriented.

We hope all of our men and young men (grades 7-12) will participate in this opportunity to grow in our walk with the Lord and in our relationships with one another. If you have not already signed up, please contact Pastor Lindholm no later than Friday, November 6.



Rejoicing Together in the Lord's Faithfulness

Psalm 95:1-2 Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

A Thanksgiving Eve service will be held in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday evening, November 25. Please plan to join us as we celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness, expressing our gratitude to the Lord through the singing of songs, reading of Scripture, and sharing of personal testimonies of thanks. Light refreshments will be provided.

Women's Ministries is sponsoring a service project called "Operation Christmas Child," through which shoe boxes are filled with items for needy children around the world. There are flyers in the church foyer with detailed instructions for participation in this project. Everyone is encouraged to help out!

Adding to Our Missions Team



Here at Fellowship we first met Gary and Janet Goodge in 2004 when they participated in our annual missions conference. We were impressed with their character and ministry, and invited them back for our conference in 2008. The Lord used those times of interaction to create in us a desire to partner with the Goodges in the ministry of the gospel.

This year the Lord opened the door for the church to consider Gary and Janet as missionary candidates. The Goodges officially became a part of Fellowship's missions team by church vote at the October Quarterly Business Meeting. We are delighted to now serve as one of Gary and Janet's sending churches.

Getting to Know Our New Missionary Family

Gary and Janet Goodge



Gary spent his early years in Dyer, Indiana, where his father served as a Baptist pastor. His parents then went on to be missionaries, serving in the West Indies for the remainder of Gary's youth. Janet grew up in an Air Force family. She went to college in Tennessee, and her parents followed her there upon retirement. The Lord brought Janet's family to Grace Baptist Church in Chattanooga, where Gary was serving as youth pastor.

After being married, Gary and Janet continued to serve at Grace. Gradually the Lord directed them out of pastoral ministry and to the missions field. They were commissioned as missionaries by Grace Baptist in 1982, and Grace continues to serve as their home church today.

The Goodges served as church planters from 1985 to 1996 in French Guiana, where they worked with another missionary couple to establish a church in the town of Kourou. Then they went on to serve in France from 1997 to 2003, where they replaced another missionary couple in a young church. A significant portion of their ministry was focused upon reaching out to French young people.

After serving in missions administration from 2003 to 2008, Gary and Janet were led by the Lord to return to France with Titus International. After raising additional support, the Goodges are now preparing for the return to France. Their goal is to leave for the field this fall, and their greatest need is the sale of their house.

Gary and Janet will be working closely with an established national church and its French pastor with the goal of seeing a multiplication of local churches in the southeastern portion of the country. They will be training laymen in the church to become lay-pastors of cell churches in that largely unreached region, with those cells then growing to become fully functioning local churches that are able to start still more churches.

Gary and Janet have three adult children, as well as two young grandchildren, who they will be leaving behind for the first time when they return to France. Pray for the difficult process of saying goodbye to these loved ones.

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Money Matters

We are thrilled to be able to say goodbye to our mortgage in November!! The Lord has been exceedingly good in enabling us to accomplish this goal in 2009. However, General Fund giving continues to fall short of the need, leaving a shortfall of \$19,270. Please pray the Lord will enable us to close this gap by year's end.

October Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$5,103
Weekly Need	\$5,689
Year-to-Date General Fund Giving	\$225,369
Year-to-Date General Fund Need	\$244,639

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Calendar

Nov. 10	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
Nov. 13	Women's Ministries Game Night (7:00 PM)
Nov. 14	Church Workday (8:00 AM) Youth Word of Life Superbowl (1:30 PM)
Nov. 18	Missions Prayer Meeting (7:30 PM)
Nov. 20-21	Men's Retreat
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Eve Service (7:30 PM)