

PROJECT PHILIPPINES

Sabado Family Newsletter for Jan. 2009
P.O. Box 176
6500 Tacloban City
Philippines

SPONSORING CHURCH:
Central Church of Christ
148 Sunset Blvd.
Hereford, TX 79045

LCC EVANGELISM PROGRAM

Door knocking every other Saturday is ongoing for LCC students as a regular activity for their evangelism class under our fellow teachers and teammates, Reuel Belo and Rolando Quibedo. This activity started last Nov. 22. Other members of the church, even those not in schools, are encouraged to join. Some young people, when not busy with their school works, have been participating in this endeavor and we are more than delighted to see them join this spiritual exercise.

Also part of this program, LCC students are sent to help various small churches on Sundays to lighten the load of the local preacher. They are usually divided into groups as some of them go to the small towns of Tolosa, Tunga, Alang-Alang and Carigara, while others remain to fulfill their part during the Sunday worship in Tacloban. This is a good start and a good exposure for our preaching students who are committed to serve the Lord's kingdom.

As part of promoting camaraderie among faculty and students, LCC has been conducting a regular basketball game on weekends. A week before the Christmas break, we had a championship and it was concluded by a dinner prepared by the students. There was no prize for the winner but surely everybody had fun.

THANKSGIVING ACTIVITIES



The preschool department of LCC conducted a thanksgiving program held in the church building last Dec. 12. This Christmas gathering was highlighted by a lot of entertaining activities such as games, gift giving, singing & special presentations by the school children. The devotional and technical preparations for this program were assisted by the LCC personnel and students. It was indeed a fun-filled day for the parents and their children. Everybody felt the warm comradeship and good fellowship shared by

everyone as they exchanged smile and laughter.

In our country, it has been traditional for Churches of Christ to celebrate year end thanksgiving in the month of December. For the Tacloban Church, the thanksgiving fellowship was held last Dec. 27. Several brethren from the different congregations in Leyte attended this occasion. As usual, there was a big, sumptuous pot-luck lunch for all. Activity started with a devotional featuring the messages of senior Christian visitors. Both young and old present in

the gathering had wonderful and unforgettable presentations, mostly singing and biblical skit/drama. The fellowship came to a close with some hilarious games.



In the southern part of Leyte, four congregations decided to have a joint meal fellowship on Dec. 30. These churches, which consists of Sogod, Libas, Maac and Bontoc, invited me to be their guest speaker for this event. The brethren were happy to see me after three years. It was my first time to visit with them after coming home from the US. I have many friends in these four congregations and I baptized a few of them. I used to live in the town of Sogod when I was still

single and I worked in the church there as a local evangelist for two years before I moved to other place in Leyte to help with the church planting ministry. The Sogod congregation was the first church that I have worked with when I first came to Leyte. The leaders of these four churches asked me to preach on Baptism during that gathering for their invited visitors and prospects who are not Christians. Praise God for Evelyn Ichon, Chenneth Cadelina, and Anna Dotollo for coming forward and deciding to be baptized into the name of Christ right away.



EVANGELISTIC TRIP

My family and I, together with the Eastep family, attended the National Evangelism Workshop Seminar in Manila held last Dec. 22-24. We are so blessed to hear inspiring messages from the different speakers around the Philippines as well as United States of America, which included our teammate, Johnny Eastep. Aside from making new friends and meeting old ones, we had the opportunity to advertise our school and convince some parents to send their young men to LCC to become preachers. While we were in Manila we were able to hold a business meeting with the LCC Board regarding the progress of the school and plans for year 2009. We are so blessed also to have board members that are strong Christian men and are willing to help improve the school. We also talked about the land or property that we are buying for the school.

We had a hard time flying back to Tacloban. All flights were fully booked due to the Christmas season. It was our first time to spend Christmas in a hotel. We were back in Tacloban just in time for the Year-End Thanksgiving Fellowship.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE

We are so thankful to God to all of you, our supporters, for all your prayers and generous support to the Leyte Christian College. The progress of this institution gives great joy to all of us who are involved in this project. We continue to appreciate your hearts' desire to serve our Lord Jesus through your participation by means of financial help. Thank you so much for your commitment to the Lord's kingdom here in the Philippines.

Brethren, thank you so much for your continued support by prayers and financial help to our project here in the Philippines. We do appreciate your sacrifices to support us. This mission is growing as you all know, and has continued growing like a new born babe that you can't stop its natural growth. But it is sad to say that the Project Philippines has been losing some support since last year. This work is not just for Johnny and Charlie but for all of us in the Lord's kingdom. Leyte Christian College has 15 employees to pay every month, like salaries, health insurance and retirement. The government requires schools and businesses to pay such benefits. I believe it is Biblical also that we need to take good care of our employees. In behalf of the Project Philippines team, we are making our plea once again for your generous heart and willingness to be part of this project in our country.

To those who have donated funds for the land that we are planning to purchase for the school, thank you very much. I know that some of you are excited to hear the latest news about the property. Right now, we are working on the papers as we have to abide by some government regulations and procedures (we call it *standard operating procedures*) on purchasing a land. Here in our country, it takes time to buy a property because of the legal matters that are connected with it, like the extra judicial partition or settlement with 3 weeks of publication, various taxes, actual survey of the property in the presence of buyer and seller, and certification from various government agencies. Since I have been entrusted to do this job, to search and scout for properties, by the LCC board under their approval and supervision, I will do my best. We are excited about moving to a new place, to set up good school facilities and hopefully we can start the children's home. Buying a piece of land takes a lot of works but it is a good experience for me. I teach my class in the mornings and most of my afternoons are spent on doing paper works for the land purchase. I enjoy learning a lot of things from this work. Not only that, I make new friends and have the opportunity to share Jesus Christ. Wherever I go, people ask me what I do for a living. When I tell them that I'm a gospel preacher, this becomes an avenue for them to hear the gospel message because they keep on asking after that. Their curiosity drives me more to share with them the hope of salvation. Please include me in your prayers that wherever I go in my undertakings regarding this land purchase that I may find good prospects in my desire to better serve the Lord.