PHILIPPINE OUTREACH CENTRE MINISTRIES

NEWSLETTER

let's make a difference // first issue of 2020

TAAL ERUPTION

It was a great shock to the Nation on the afternoon of January 12, 2020 when the volcano Taal erupted. It affected 3 provinces, and forced lockdowns on 15 towns & cities. It was reported that over 37,203 families were evacuated. Of course it brought back a lot of nasty memories for those who were around during the 1991 eruption of Mt. Pinatubo. Thankfully this time there was no loss of human life. The volcano is still threatening and thousands of people have been permanently displaced, losing their homes, livelihoods and many lost their livestock and pets. Please continue to pray that the Lord provides for them and meets them as it is very traumatic time.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate

ENGLISH BANK ACCOUNT
NAT WEST BANK

A/C NO: 369 7037 9

SORT CODE: 01 07 71

A/C NAME:

POC Central Account

AMERICAN BANK ACCOUNT

*Cheques made payable to 'MARANATHA FAMILY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP'

A/C NAME:

Maranatha Family Christian Fellowship

PHILIPPINE BANK ACCOUNT

PNB BANK 97 Magsaysay drive, West Tapinac,

Olonggapo City

A/C NO: 205910024223

SWIFT CODE: PNBMPHMM 113391

A/C NAME:

Philippine Outreach Centre

Sponsor A Child

Make a difference in a child's life by being a sponsor, giving monthly support that will go to their daily necessities, shelter, education, etc.

For more details, contact us or visit our website at pocmin.com

PASTOR NATE

After completing a 6 month probationary period of serving and seeking God's will regarding his role as associate pastor of POCF Subic, our son **Nathanael (Nate)** gladly accepted the offer of taking on the position permanently. The church elders, deacons and members were very



pleased to receive him as pastor and a special ordination service was held to welcome him.

The young POCF (Subic) preachers whom Dondie trained (Simeon, Monique, Tonirose, Aaron, Louie and Daniel) will continue to support Nathanael by speaking in our Sunday evening services.

The ministry team in POCF are united and determined to break through any hindrances that that appear in order take hold of all that God has in 2020, as individuals and as a church family.

Dondie will continue as senior associate pastor but will be devoting much of his time training future leaders and preachers in **all the POCF churches** and will continue to minister in and oversee each of the POCF churches. He is taking the time to equip ordinary people for extraordinary things in the future of POCF.

GOING SOLAR AGAIN

This time last year we announced that by God's grace our school POCCA was going solar. At that same time, some dear friends from Germany expressed the desire to help us get solar panels for the girl's house.

The biggest hurdle however for converting to solar was that we needed to repair the roof. It was serious breakage during a typhoon when a tree fell on it and there's also major termite damage. So in order to support solar panels it is going to be a massive undertaking to fix and replace a big section of the roof. Due to the cost the project was temporarily put in abeyance.

We were completely unaware that our friends through FCM (German mission that partners with POC, www.fcmission.de) had immediately started raising funds for the project. When founder Andreas and his team visited us this month, they came with the very exciting news that they had raised sufficient funds to cover the full cost of the solar conversion including the roof repairs. God is so good.

During their visit the FCM team also sponsored our younger children to a day out on the beach with their favourite food treats and our older children to a night out at the Bowling Lanes. Both outings were a great success and all the kids had so much fun.

Some of you may be aware that aside from our children's homes, we also have halfway homes. At the age of 18 our children are legally required to leave the children's homes. However we don't want to abandon them at the time they need our help the most. So we provide a half way home (one for girls and another boys) should they choose to stay with is to continue their education. It is also a step to independent living. They are required to work, (we assist them and many work for POC) while we try to find sponsors to help with college expenses. Whilst not all children choose to stay on, most do and by the grace of God go on to become professionals.

Due to lack of extra funds for property maintenance both halfway homes are in desperate need of repair and expansion in order to accommodate the upcoming graduates this March. Please pray that we can accomplish this in time for their move.

ROBERT

We would greatly value your prayers for Robert. Robert came to POCCH when he was only 4 years old. His father was in jail at the time but was later reported to have taken his own life.

From his early childhood it was obvious that Robert had special needs. As he has grown his outbursts of anger have become more severe and uncontrollable to the extent that he has become a serious risk to the other children and even to his carers. He is now a very strong lad of 15 and he even knocked out teeth of a couple of our children on his sudden outbursts. So it is no longer a safe environment for the children. He has been confined in hospital on several occasions due to his failing mental health issues. We have reached the point that we are no longer able to cater for his needs as we don't have trained staff in the field of mental health care. Of course we love Robert dearly and it is very hard for us to discharge him, but we cannot compromise the safety other boys and carers in the home and allow them to continue to living in fear

When we first considered having to refer Robert to another institution (as he is soon to be discharged from a mental healthcare facility) I really felt that we had failed him. But then I read in the biography of the great missionary George Müller that he too faced this same situation and for the safety of the other children, had to discharge one of his orphans. That reassured me that Monique and I were making the right decision to have him transferred, though it is with great sadness. We would appreciate your prayers that the other institution that opens their doors to him will have the right expertise and will love and care for him as we have. Please pray too that he will not be traumatised by the move.



MORE UPDATES

Thanks to those who have prayed and inquired about the progress of the building projects of our family homes. Simeon & Monique's home is a little nearer completion than ours and they are scheduled to get their keys in three weeks. It will be a month or so before ours will be finished. It's been a long time coming but at last the end is in sight and we're starting to get **quite excited** at the thought of being home owners. We have each got amazing stories of God's wonderful provision. He never ceases to amaze us.

Wea: It is really great to see what God has been doing in the resettlement village of Wea, where we have been conducting outreach bible studies since 2013.

A good number of villagers now regularly attend both our bible studies and the children's Shine outreaches.

We do praise God for the shelter that He provided as it allows us to continue the

outreaches rain or shine, but we really want to complete the building so that we can start to have Sunday services. The members have consistently requested this. Currently our bible studies are mostly attended by women because the men are out at work. So they are really keen for us to start Sunday Services and establish their own church.

Initially we used benches as seats made from the wooden formwork (used for the concrete posts during the construction). However, one by one the benches have either been stolen, ravaged by termites, or simply rotted. The folk there were really encouraged when we were given the **first 10 plastic chairs** from POCF Subic. We are hoping too that we will soon be able to put in concrete flooring as It is hard to maintain a clean environment with a dirt floor!!

Throughout the week the children and youth in the village leave scattered litter, climb on the roof and generally disrespect the building as it bears no resemblance to a church. We have to ask one of the members to store the chairs at her house so they don't get stolen so the folks have to carry their own chairs to church when they attend. Please pray that the Lord will enable us to complete the building project.

Thank You

Once again we would like to offer our thanks to all who continue to support us in prayer and who partner with us here at POCM through giving and/or sponsoring our children. We thank the Lord always for you and continue to pray for the Lord to bless you abundantly. Without you we couldn't continue to reach out and touch lives with the love of God. Thank you!!! Love in Christ,

- Chrissy, Dondie and your POCM Family

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for all the victims of Volcano Taal.

Please pray for financial provision for flooring project at Wea.

Please continue to pray for Robert's well being and much needed finances for the daily provisions of our children's homes.

Please pray for healing for Gandi (one of our prison ministry team members) who has been ill for some time with Pneumonia.

Please help us pray that the Corona Virus will not spread any further, both for our well being and yours.

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