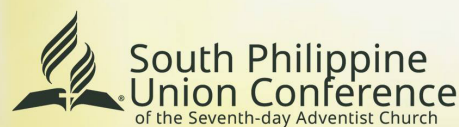


NEWSLETTER

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Over **400 SOULS** Join the Church After Stewardship Campaign in **NORTHEASTERN MINDANAO MISSION**

Over 400 new believers joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church after a month of stewardship campaigns across six provinces comprising the Northeastern Mindanao Mission (NEMM).

The Stewardship and Planned Giving and Trust Services (PGTS) departments of NEMM under the leadership of Pastor Rogelio G. Jimenez recently spearheaded an evangelistic campaign from June 6-12, 2021. The program involved the stewardship coordinator of each church who led the evangelistic campaign in their respective churches. The said program was then followed by an online evangelistic campaign led by the Treasury Department with the theme "Hope Beyond Tomorrow" which was broadcasted live on the Northeastern Mindanao Mission's

Facebook page and at 93.5 FM Hope Radio Butuan.

Every Friday night on the radio program "Ang Pagka-piniyalan" at 93.5FM, Pastor Rogelio G. Jimenez continually promoted how to be a good steward amidst the pandemic.

In the fourth week of June, a Stewardship Focus Seminar was conducted. Pastor Jibil Simbah, current Stewardship Director of the Southern Asia Pacific Division, preached every evening from June 20-24, 2021 and on the 25th Pastor Rudy G. Jimenez, Stewardship and PGTS Director of SPUC, continued the presentation. On Sabbath day, the culmination of the Stewardship month was celebrated with encouraging lectures and experiences

AMCI Branches out to Tupi

ON 19 July 2021, Dr. Rogelio Garcia Memorial Hospital officially transitioned to Adventist Medical Center Iligan (AMCI)-Tupi Branch. During this inauguration, AMCI sent half of their department heads and several other staff to serve in a free clinic that decorated its soft opening.

The shift began when the heirs of Dr. Rogelio Garcia Sr. and his wife, also a doctor, pledged their lofty support for the church's mission by turning over to



Adventist Church ordains Basco and Mirasol to the ministry

BY Jomel Antona Labuson

“*TODAY is the most awaited moment in your ministerial journey,*” reaffirmed Pr. Edwin T. Magdadaro, president of Davao Mission, in his homily during the ordination of Pr. Robert G. Mirasol and Pr. Edmund Z. Basco as full-fledged ministers. The ceremony was held at Digos Central Adventist Church on July 30 in the presence of their families, friends, and colleagues in the ministry.

Pr. Magdadaro also reminded both of the candidates that “Of course, you have hoped for it. You have prayed and worked for it. You have done it well. Now, the greatest challenge of a minister is your life after this [ordination].”

Pr. Edmund Zablan Basco earned his degree in Theology from South Philippine Adventist College (SPAC) in 1998. He hails from Caburan, Jose Abad Santos, Davao Occidental. He is married to Ruth Leron-Basco, with whom he has a son named Rued Kirby, incoming Grade 12 at SPAC Academy. Pr. Edmund started his ministry in 2015 at San Jose Adventist Church in Digos City. His missionary endeavor had him bring 825 souls to the Master’s feet through baptism.

Pr. Robert Griaga Mirasol is the youngest of eight siblings. His ministry started with Adopt-A-Ministers International in 2006. He graduated from SPAC in 2003 with a Theology degree. In 2014 he earned his Master of Arts in Education degree from the University of the Visayas. He is married to Ellen Bernales-Mirasol. Their son, Joshua Elbert Darl, is an incoming Grade 8 at SPAC Academy. A daughter named Faith Anne Darl lived only for 12 days after her birth in May 2015. In his ministry, he has planted 18 churches and recommended 2,753 individuals for baptism.

The sermon was enriched with humility as Pr. Magdadaro ended his message, “This ordination is not about you, nor us. This ordination is all about Him that sent us!”

Pastors Basco and Mirasol are two of the four candidates for ordination approved by the Ministerial council of the South Philippine Union Conference for Davao Mission. However, due to the government’s quarantine status, the ordination service for Pr. Jonathan Hikilan and Pr. Dominador Tipdas will take place at a different venue and a later time. ■

CMM Women’s Ministries Baptizes 15

BY Aubrey Virtudes & Marife Patalinghug

THIS year’s prevailing quarantine restrictions never hindered the zealous women of the Central Mindanao Mission of Seventh-day Adventists (CMM) in sharing God’s love to others. Headed by Mrs. Marife M. Patalinghug, the women’s department organized three seminars and two community outreach programs in the second quarter of 2021.

The department facilitated the Revelation of Hope Seminar at Hotel Valencia on May 16-21 to reach out to the elite people in the society. They invited the Sabbath School Director of South Philippine Union Conference himself, Pastor Segundino Asoy, to be their keynote speaker in proclaiming God’s message. The women from Cluster 4, comprising Valencia 1, 2, and 3; Lilingayon; and Lurugan Districts

» PAGE 7 CMM Women’s

ADRA Philippines , NORMACS offer relief to Cagayan de Oro Flood Victims

THE continuous heavy downpour in Bukidnon was reported to be the cause of an unexpected flash flood experienced by Cagayan de Oro City last July 13, 2021, at around 8:00 o’clock in the evening. This was unexpected by residents in Cagayan de Oro where the weather was fair throughout the day and only experienced light rains in the evening. However, the said neighboring province is in an elevated area and excess water eroded into its natural basin (Cagayan de Oro City) leaving waist-deep waters in barangays Baloy, Tablon, and Cugman, displacing 1,150 families, and wiping-away three houses.

Upon knowing this incident, the director of Northern Mindanao Adventist Community Services Inc. (NORMACS),

» PAGE 8 ADRA Phil

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FROM **drunken master** TO AN AMBASSADOR FOR *Christ*

BY Pastor Leoncio G. Guting, Jr.
Stewardship Director, WMC

Slide, a small village of barangay Kidalos, Kapatagan, Lanao del Norte, got its name from a nearby waterfall that resembles a sliding cascade. From here, we will meet Ceriaco Guminlin, the village Datu (chieftain) of the area's Subanen tribe.

He was popular not only because he served as one of the councilors for twelve years but also because of the drinking spree he staged with other drunkards which usually caused troubles every now and then and most especially during local fiesta celebrations. Everyone in the place, including local public officials, could attest to that.

But on December 5, 2020 he was baptized in the Seventh-day Adventist Church together with 42 other people. A drastic change took place and the drunken master became an ambassador for Christ.

Three Sabbaths later, his own family also followed Jesus in baptism as they saw a miraculous change in his life.

As a new believer he encountered a lot of trials. His faith was tested when one of the officials objected to his request of using their tribal hall as a venue for church gatherings. Through the pastor's advice he managed to keep his composure. Making fun of his transformation, he was also despised by his former friends. But by the grace of God he withstood the test.

Eventually his life became a blessing as some of his former alcoholic friends were converted to the truth. Through his initiative 30 families were given FM receivers to follow the nightly evangelism broadcast from DXHR Hope Radio-Tangub that started on June 6-25, 2021. Tuning in to the same

broadcasts were Alfred and Bryan, both sons of an Islam sultan of the Maranao tribe. Together with 22 others, they were both baptized with the blessing of their father on July 2, 2021.

A few days after their baptism, their newly built church was destroyed by a storm. But despite the taunts and discouraging remarks from the community the new believers stood firm.

Within weeks through the leadership of Pastor Lemuel Nietes, their district pastor, the brethren worked together to build the church again. This time it was a lot stronger and presentable with materials that are mostly concrete and steel. As of this time of writing, the church building is ready for roofing. To God be the glory! ■



Jovelyn COMES HOME

BUT one day, God reminded her that she was never forgotten. She woke up and finally decided that she can no longer continue living without hope. “If not now, then when?” Jovelyn told herself.

Most of us have known the story of the prodigal son. The youngest son sets out on a journey to a faraway land only to squander his family’s wealth, forcing him to return to his father’s home broken and on the edge of survival. We have perhaps even heard a few sermons preached on this parable. And from time to time, we may have even heard others (or even ourselves) refer to people we know as “prodigals.”

What we usually mean when we say this is that someone had walked away from Lord, but has now returned. They came back to the Lord, just like the son who returned home in the parable.

She was a prodigal daughter. And this is her story.

Her Wayward Life

For as long as she can remember, Jovelyn Marianas has always called herself an Adventist. Growing up in an Adventist home, her whole family attended church in Valencia City, Bukidnon. She knew who God was and what Jesus did from a pretty early age. But one day, things at home started to get shaky; her parents eventually separated. Jovelyn’s church attendance declined, until she no longer went. Despite knowing God her whole life, looking back, she could see that she had spent most of her life just being distantly acquainted with Him. While she always called herself an

Adventist, there was a huge fundamental flaw. She lived ignoring Him; she would only turn to Him when she wanted something from Him.

Jovelyn’s faith was a winding path through grade school and into high school. During her last year in Valencia City National High School, her Adventist classmate learned about her and encouraged her to get back to church. Before her graduation day, Jovelyn was baptized and accepted at Valencia Central Church.

For a short time, Jovelyn spent her renewed faith in Valencia until she had to leave for college. She received a scholarship in a big university in Cagayan de Oro. Since only half of her tuition fee was covered, she had to work on weekends just to make both ends meet. That was the start of her fallout. She could only pray to go back to Christ but she was caught in a situation she couldn’t escape from. She felt empty and she made excuses for the challenges yet at the same time she was spiraling further. God was not even a thought anymore.

After years of hurdles, Jovelyn finally graduated from college. She then started getting her life back together. She worked in Butuan City and there she met God once again. She attended a Bible study and was re-baptized. But that encounter with God was short lived because at that night of her baptism, she received a call from her boss informing her that she will be transferred to Davao City.

In her new workplace, Jovelyn had searched for an Adventist Church. She went from church to church seeking

for belongingness but she always felt undeserving. She succumbed to self-doubts; she thought she wasn’t enough, that she’s a half-baked Adventist. She felt lacking. She felt lost. The doubts, they lingered. It robbed her of the joy of salvation.

Lost in the sea of fear and silence, she allowed herself to be swept away once again. She was tired and ashamed to go home. The devil whispered in her ear again and again, “You wouldn’t be accepted; you can never go home.” She continued her life wandering aimlessly.

But one day, God reminded her that she was never forgotten. She woke up and finally decided that she can no longer continue living without hope. “If not now, then when?” Jovelyn asked herself.

Her Renewed Faith

Once you have tasted the love of Christ, you will never be the same. Once you have moved from death to life, the things of this world taste rotten.

And so, soon her legs became too weary to run. The intoxicating effects wore off and she began to look around at the pile of sin.

One day, Jovelyn stumbled upon the Revelation of Hope series at Hope Channel South Philippines, aired on July 21 to 31, 2021 with Pr Segundino Asoy as the evangelist. God’s unrelenting faithfulness throughout her life blew her away. She has rejected Him time and time again. But despite all the rejections, He has never, not even for a moment, turned away from her. God, in His mercy, showed His relentless grace, so that she would

know that she has an eternal hope and an unchangeable source of joy. He declared His love for her 2000 years ago when Christ died on that cross. And 2000 years later, God has shown her time and time again what love means.

She will always have a place in her Father’s house.

Jovelyn made a courageous decision to be baptized on August 4, 2021. She finally offered Him her whole life. No turning back.

Her Message to People Who Haven’t Returned Home Yet

“Never ever put your expectations on people, because when expectations fail, you will surely stumble in faith. I’m done

with this aimless life. This is it. This is the only way forward,” Jovelyn said with conviction. “This is the time, this is the moment. If not now, then when?”

There is no doubt she will stumble along the way. But, as this new season in her life takes shape, she is no longer afraid. She is excited to see what the future holds now that her footing is firm.

The Parable of the Prodigal Son is a story, a wonderful story that Jesus told to illustrate the Father’s joy at the repentance of His lost child. But these are more than stories -- of a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son. Jesus lived out this seeking and rejoicing day by day. He sought out those who were wandering and gave them hope. He treated the lost and shunned by the world with

respect and love.

The South Philippine Union Conference is a safe place for people who are looking for answers to life questions and a place where those who have decided to follow Jesus Christ can learn and be encouraged in their spiritual growth.

Are you interested to know more about the Seventh-Day Adventist Church? If so, contact this number and we will be in touch: 09165574777 *Hope Channel South Philippines* ■



Sheena Jade Ectin
writes from Cebu City

AMCI branches...

“1 South Philippine Union Conference (SPUC) their family-owned hospital in Tupi, South Cotabato.

Initially, the Garcia siblings expressed their desire to donate Dr. Rogelio Garcia Memorial Hospital to Southern Mindanao Mission (SMM). Pastor Rene S. Rosa, president of SMM then relayed the news to Elder Roger Caderma, president of SPUC, who expressed gratitude for the family’s willingness to give their best for the Lord.

The transaction was finalized on April 8, 2021 as SPUC and SMM officers, together with Dr. Edgar Claude Nadal, president of AMCI, and his co-officers visited the hospital in Tupi and convened with Dr. Rodman Garcia, one of the Garcia siblings.

Arrangements were then made that Garcia Memorial Hospital be endorsed to the management of a much bigger and more experienced institution--the Adventist Medical Center Iligan. It was also recommended that the nurses and staff of the new Tupi branch



and Hemodialysis Center and develop the pharmacy and laboratory next year.

AMC - Iligan Tupi offers free clinic on its Soft Opening Day

Formerly Dr. Rogelio Memorial Hospital, now Adventist Medical Center Iligan (AMCI) Tupi Branch offered free consultations on its

grateful parents all without charge.

As many as half of the department heads of AMCI were sent to supervise the free clinic that attended 180 gratified patients on the first day and another 40 the day after.

Dr. Edgar Nadal, AMCI President, plans to make AMCI Tupi branch a Level 1 hospital by having at least an Operating Room (OR), Outpatient Department (OPD) and X-ray and Hemodialysis departments to cater for more patients in the area next year.

The newly inaugurated hospital in Tupi, South Cotabato hopes to perform its share of ministry by administering healthcare in an Adventist way. ■



will be manned by AMCI for the meantime.

Dr. Nestor Molleda, AMCI Vice President for Operations, said the plan is to open an X-ray

opening day on July 19, 2021.

Besides checkups, circumcision and giving of pediatric medicines were also afforded to



Darryl Ectin
writes from Impasug-ong, Bukidnon

A Significant Lift of the Tithes and Offerings

BY Pastor Leoncio G. Guting, Jr.
Stewardship Director, WMC

The Stewardship Ministries of Western Mindanao Conference (WMC) from the year 2013 up to the present has witnessed a significant lift for tithes and offerings. It is all due to the collaborative efforts of the conference leadership and the officers of the local churches.

Several Stewardship Certification seminars were done throughout the conference territory by the Southern Asia

Pacific Division (SSD) and by the South Philippine Union Conference (SPUC) with the local conference stewardship department facilitating.

Three major certifications were done within the conference level, several from the provincial level and numerous others within the districts and churches.

During the pandemic most of these seminars were hosted online and also broadcast via the Hope Radio DXBH 103.7 and through Facebook by Hope

Channel Western Mindanao. According to the treasurer’s comparative report, the tithe figures of January to July last year have been surpassed by 26.69% this year. And the combined offerings percentage increase is also 46.21 as of June 2021.

We praise the Lord for keeping His children supplied throughout the crisis and also wish to commend and thank the faithfulness of our brethren on their personal and family stewardship. ■

A Miraculous Healing

BY Ivy Love C. Catalan

IT was past 12:00 O'clock noon on July 13, 2020 when he decided to take an alternate road going home, passing under the trees and crossing a creek for about a little more than 1 kilometer from SPUC where he worked. After taking his lunch he napped to gain strength for the afternoon's toils. When he was about to take a rest something unusual happened, he heard a loud snap from his head followed by headache and sweating. During that time, he was alone in the house, but good enough he still managed to call his daughter and his sister-in-law who lived next door. He was rushed to the hospital for admission. His blood laboratory results and his vital signs show no indication of any sickness. After 3 days, he was discharged with the ailment of migraine according to the attending physician.

Unfortunately, he didn't get well. Instead the pain got worse. After praying hard for guidance, his family

SPUC headquarters and requests for prayers were sent to all pastors, brethren, relatives and friends via Facebook, and text messages. Prayers were also said during Hope Channel broadcasts.

Due to the pandemic, the only available procedure is craniotomy (to open the skull and place a tiny clip across the neck of the aneurysm to stop or prevent bleeding). Immediately the 6 hours procedure on July 24, 2020 took place. The following day he regained consciousness by God's grace. Every meal he prayed not only for the food but also for all the medical team.

Three days later his condition deteriorated due to some infections including meningitis and hydrocephalus. He underwent a 2nd operation on August 07, 2020 called temporary drainage. The hospital he is confined at is one of the top



hydrocephalus reoccurred. Another emergency operation (3rd operation) took place for him to survive. This is called SHUNT (a permanent drainage from head to stomach). The following day he was unresponsive with GCS or Glasgow Coma Scale of 7-8 only. (GCS score can range from 3 (completely unresponsive) to 15 (responsive)).

Continuous prayer for healing is done by his colleagues in SPUC headquarters headed by the president Pastor Roger Caderma together with

all the workers and brethren in the different missions, conferences and institutions. Friends and relatives joined together asking for a miracle for healing. His family cried to God asking for a miracle.

God showed His power as Jesus did when he was on earth. He heals Peter's mother-in-law sick with fever (Matt. 8:14-15), He heals an invalid at Bethesda (John 5:1-15), Jesus heals many sick in Gennesaret Matt. 14:34-36, and many more.

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise (2 Peter 3:9). "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything

according to his will, he hears us." 1 John 5:14.

Through God's healing power, he gains strengths day after day. He stayed for almost 3 months in the hospital and was discharged on September 29, 2020 and stayed home until his full recovery.

Indeed, this is a miraculous healing to this humble and faithful God's servant — Diosdado Talondata Catalan, my loving Dad. ■



decided to bring him to another hospital for a second opinion. He underwent MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) and was found out to have minimal acute subarachnoid hemorrhage. After a series of different laboratories it was ruled out that he had Grade I Aneurysm. "He must undergo brain surgery," said the attending physician. All members of the family were worried due to the fact that brain surgery is a very serious procedure. A prayer marathon for healing was launched at

hospitals in the city, unfortunately the CT-SCAN has some problems and he needs to be brought to another hospital for CT-SCAN. One amazing thing is every time he is transported, he gathers all medical and non-medical teams for prayer.

His family is grateful that on August 24, 2020 he was transferred to the private room from the ICU. But after 3 days he always sleeps and wakes up with severe pain. Another CT-SCAN was administered and found out his

Adventist headquarters in Davao facilitates 1,200 AztraZeneca shots to community

BY Kirchie May Ablo

THE Davao Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, in partnership with our healthcare institution, Adventist Hospital Davao (AHD), thru the supervision of the Vaccine Cluster of the City Government of Davao Health Office, heeded the call and fulfilled our duty as citizens to participate in the CoViD-19 Vaccination Program!

The four-day event had 1,200 AztraZeneca shots administered on July 19, 21-23 at the Royal Valley SDA Elementary School Covered Court to Adventist church members and non-church members.

Davao Mission (DM) president, Pr. Edwin Magdadaro, simultaneously acting as the DM Health director, had this plan a few months back when vaccination sites are a bit harder to find. With Adventist Hospital Davao, the healthcare institution of the Adventist Church in Davao region, together they worked it out with the City Government of Davao, under the supervision of Dr. Josephine Villafuerte, Vaccine Cluster head of the City Health Office.

“The vaccine vials cannot be returned to the shelf once it’s opened. So we had to call on people from all walks of life outside the premises of the vaccination venue to be properly administered to,” says Dr. Kenneth Tandug, VP for Medical Affairs of the AHD.

Pr. Magdadaro said, “We have called on to our church members who are willing to participate in this program.” It was also to cater to the vaccination needs of the

church where they don’t have to cue on long lines under the scorching heat of the sun.

The first day of the program saw some 216 shots administered. However, the process wasn’t that long as everyone who received the shots enjoyed a heavy snack prepared by DM. As one participant puts it, “Malipayon ko nga ing-ani ang nahitabo dinhi nga vaccination site. Salamat sa fruit juice, bread, ug lomi! Unta ing-ani sad sa uban nga mga lugar!” (I am happy this is what happened today in this vaccination site! There was fruit juice, bread, and Lomi noodle soup! I wished all of the sites are like this!)

The numbers of those who had the shots the following day almost doubled and tripled the day after.

DM also invited and catered to sister institutions like Northern Davao Mission and South Philippine Adventist College. Other nearby companies also took advantage of this program, like Mercury Drug, Jameg Construction and Manpower Services, to name a few.

“All in all, we had 1,200 shots administered,” said Ms. Aida Daugdaug-Lamera, AHD Nursing Services director.

DM did a simple ceremony during the Devotional program held on the last



day of the event. It was to appreciate Adventist Hospital Davao’s leadership for administering the event and the Vaccine Cluster of the City Health Office of Davao City for approving the church’s request.

Davao Mission appreciates the leadership of AHD led by Mr. Marijoe S. Pialago, President; Dr. Kenneth T. Tandug, VP for Medical Affairs; Dr. Leni M. Pialago, VP Operations; Ms. Wintonette Mojica-Tabudlong, VP Finance; Ms. Sheena Gersava-Avance, Infection Control Incharge; Ms. Aida Daugdaug-Llamera, Asso. Nursing Service Director; the doctors, nurses, and support staff.

Davao Mission, through its administrators: Pr. Edwin Magdadaro, Pr. Rey Merin, and Mr. Laurence Lamera; and the Adventist Hospital Davao wished to extend their profound appreciation to the City Government of Davao, its City Health Office, the Region XI Department of Health for the very successful administration of the Covid 19 Vaccination Program. ■

CMM Women’s...

|| 2 | facilitated the event. The seminar became an instrument in calling 15 precious souls to a new relationship with Jesus as they accepted Him as their savior.

In a joint effort with the CMM administrators and directors under the leadership of Pastor Jerry Patalinghug, and Longvine Hope Studio, they conducted a 21-day series entitled “In Times Like These, We Need to Turn to God (Igsuon Ko, O, Balik Na)”, with topics from the Last Day Events. It was successfully aired last June 6-26 online and via radio broadcast.

Moreover, the Voice of Prophecy series, “*Tingog sa Propesiya*” has begun with more than 1,000 student participants. This program airs every Saturday and Sunday at 1:30-2:30 in the afternoon starting June

6 and ending on August 29 of this year. This has been backed by the Ministerial Spouses Association and women leaders from the different clusters of CMM.

Inspired by God’s special calling for women to advance His work, they organized a community pantry called, “*Gasa sa Dios, Grasya sa Dios*”, to provide raw food and other goods to people in need when the COVID-19 crisis began to shut down areas under Bukidnon province. The pantry opens daily in its first few days, then decreasing to twice a week, and eventually as needed, at present, due to the availability of supplies.

Lastly, as part of their thanksgiving celebration for the life of their leader, Mrs. Patalinghug, the department collaborated with the CMM family and ACS (Adventist Community Service) to share God’s love



and blessings to the most needy people in Sitio Natampod, San Fernando, Valencia City through a feeding and gift-giving program. With the overwhelming support of the generous philanthropists, they were able to distribute grocery items and slippers, conduct free clinic, and supply some materials for shelter, such as (8) eight pieces of galvanized iron with (1) one kilo umbrella nails and (1) one plain sheet to 30 recipients among the indigent people.

Evidently, in spite of the challenges that the pandemic has brought to the world, God provides means for His people to continue the mission of sharing His love to others. Without neglecting the need to take precautions in interacting with other people during this time of crisis, the women of CMM dedicated themselves in the service of the Lord while lifting all the glory to His name! ■



ADRA Phils...

Pr. Melnaire V. Cagas, acted quickly and partnered with ADRA Philippines. Together, our church agencies readily reached out to the flood victims.

Help was given to flood victims through cash assistance amounting to P 1,500 per family. Distribution of the financial assistance was given last July 25th at Purok 2, Cugman, through house-to-house distribution, and July 27th in Baloy, Tablon, through organized distribution in their covered court. Health protocols were strictly implemented and followed throughout these distribution activities. About 450 families were blessed by the financial help allocated by ADRA Philippines.

These efforts would have not been possible without the cooperation of the Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department, Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI), ADRA, and NORMACS, headed by Pr. Cagas alongside with Ptr. Robert Villardo, district pastor of Gusa. Likewise, the efforts of the volunteers from Baloy SDA church and the cooperation of the local government leaders in these affected areas are well recognized which made this altruistic undertaking a success.

As followers of Christ, we are called to open our hearts and commit ourselves to charity. We are to bring our experiences



and faith into practice and make a difference in the lives of people around us.



Raisa Cabahug writes from South Korea

DM virtually sends-off elementary teachers to a new school year

BY Cherry Linao-Hodge

DAVAO Mission (DM) Education department, under the leadership of Ms. Marilyn Chipada-Moralde, and her associate, Ms. Cheryl Linao-Hodge coordinated a unique Spiritual "Send-Off" Program for the elementary teachers on August 13 and 14.

The virtual weekend retreat started with Pr.

gathering now and then as teachers shared their experiences and gratefulness amidst the pandemic and how it brought them to stand the test of time, even in a very challenging financial situation.

However, DM treasurer, Mr. Laurence Lamera, emphasized "giving thanks to the Lord at all times," even in the crisis that we now are experiencing. "He will see everyone through. Just stay faithful to His calling," he said further.

In his Divine worship message, Pr. Edwin Magdadaro, DM president, made clear and reminded our teachers that "those who are accepted as teachers in our schools are opened a field for labor and cultivation, for the sowing of the seed and for the harvesting of the ripening grain." (Christian Education 156.1)

He further said, "You are placed and assigned to our schools because you have a task to do! And, we thank you, our teachers, for holding on to the mandate that we

shall finish the work that God has assigned us to do!" Then, citing from the story of Tanzanian, John Stephen Akhwari, a 1968 Olympic Marathon legend, who came in the very last during his run-- "My country did not send me 5,000 miles to start the race; they sent me 5,000 miles to FINISH the race!"

Attending this "Spiritual Send-Off" program are teachers from the four schools supervised by the Davao Mission: Davao City SDA Elementary School; Royal Valley SDA Elementary School; Digos SDA Elementary School; and the Adventist Elementary School of Digos City. Joining the program is Dr. Bobby Asis, SPUC Education director; Pr. Lito Magsico, DM Ministerial and Youth director; Ms. Lindy Lou Sibana-Magdadaro, DM Children and Family Ministries director; and Mr. Rhoen Catolico, DM Communication/Media director.

This program will commence this afternoon as teachers get ready for the opening of the school year.



Danny Inato, Associate Publishing director of the Adventist Church in Mindanao (SPUC), with his message of "creating and maintaining the image of Jesus Christ that is to be always seen in us [teachers]." Meanwhile, tears halted the virtual

BY Alicia C. Guting Women's Ministries Director, WMC

GCQ, MGCQ and other restrictions are experienced by the majority in Western Mindanao Conference, yet the women continue to answer the call, "I will go".

We celebrated the Nutrition month of July with joy of helping the needy. Below are the activities done by the empowered women:

DATE	ACTIVITIES	DONE BY	RECEIPIENTS
July 2, 2021	Slippers' Distribution/ Feeding	Tuluan, Bonifacion, Misamis Occ.	150 kids
July 18, 2021	Slippers' Distribution/ Feeding	Lodiong, Bonifacio, Misamis Occ.	180 adults/kids
July 18, 2021	Community Pantry	San Isidro, Lala, Lanao del Norte	50 families
July 23-24, 2021	Women's Leadership Certification Levels 1&2	Carmen, Jimenez, Misamis Occ.	
July 30- August 1, 2021	Women's Officers Retreat- Zamboanga del Sur Province	Calingayan, Dumalinao, Zamboanga del Sur	

GCQ OR NOT, I WILL GO!

Over 400...

from Pastor Rudy G. Jimenez, and Pastor Rogelio G. Jimenez.

The month-long stewardship emphasis blessed the NEMM territory with the fellowship of newly baptized souls and with the wonderful messages, starting from the General Conference Stewardship Revival Week with the theme "Seeking First the Kingdom" to the Stewardship Focus Seminar. They were also blessed with the wonderful message from Pastor Noldy Sakul, former Stewardship and PGTS Department Director of Southern Asia Pacific Division. They were reminded that God is always faithful to His people, and His people ought to be faithful to Him.



Marck Jason Tagapan writes from Musuan, Bukidnon