



Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings from sultry Manila -- it is summer now, very dry and we are in an El Nino cycle so we have not had rain for a long time. It is also "fire" season meaning fire is the number one danger of people living in squatter communities. Last Sunday there was a huge fire in a squatter community nearby leaving an estimated 7,000 people homeless. Tomorrow we will survey the area and see what we can do to help those who thus far have received very little aid. Our intention when we do relief ministry is to provide comfort, compassion and spread the Good News of Christ. Pray for us as we look for ways to help and a church to partner with that would be willing to establish a ministry in the fire zone.

1. Ondoy relief, DVBS, feeding, church plant

As you may recall, last September 26 Metro Manila was pummeled by typhoon Ondoy leaving 80% of the city under water, hundreds dead and thousands displaced. April 19 our team did another major relief operation in San Mateo, Rizal in a community that was literally washed away by 20 meter high rushing flood water killing several. Since that time this community has shown its resolve to rebuild and desire to regain normalcy even though they have received very little help from the government or non-government organizations. Blessed Community Church, a partner ministry, found this area and asked us to provide practical relief which we did for 75 families along with sharing a comforting message from the Word of God. This week, Monday through Wednesday, Blessed Community had a Daily Vacation Bible School for 80 children and we gave away several packs of Gallon of Care school supplies to the kids which were provided by Kent Covenant Church in Kent, WA. We are now planning with local officials to start a 6 month feeding program for the children as well because there are many malnourished kids in the community which Blessed Community will also oversee. Our goal is to establish a church in the community along with providing practical care because there is no evangelical church nearby. Pray for wisdom as we befriend the community and continue to minister among these precious people. You can see pictures of the relief at the following link: <http://gallery.me.com/jma.anderson#gallery>

April 14 we visited Pilillia, Rizal's tent city where we started a 6-month feeding about a month ago in cooperation with the local Department of Health and several mothers under the care of two pastors. The kids are regaining health, the mothers are very enthusiastic and grateful and the two pastors are providing Bible studies for both adults and kids and the work is going well. This Friday we will visit the folks again as we are making many friends in the area due to several months of ministry we've done. Again, the goal is to establish a church which the people are telling us they want.

2. Sportsfest and Quizbee

We are now planning our May 8 Sportsfest and Quizbee for street kids and out of school youth who have attended our camps, Christmas parties and studying in the Alternative Learning System program. It will be a fun day of competition such as basketball, volleyball, spelling bee, relay races and the like. We're grateful for our long-time ministry partner, Mission to Children, which provided the funds for this activity. Pray for us please that everyone has a good time learning healthy competition (which is tough for street kids who are accustomed to a "me-first" attitude on the streets) and more about Jesus.

3. Quality Improvement System (QIS) and Project Cycle Management (PCM)

We are now lining up 25 to 30 organizations and churches who desire to improve their ministries to children at risk by taking Viva Network's QIS training which is for well-established ministries or their PCM training which is for less-established ministries. QIS is an intensive 2 year program and the topics covered will be: people care, child protection, advocacy, governance, financial accountability, project planning and design, and child well-being. PCM will have similar topics but less intense. We hope to start QIS in May and PCM in June. We're grateful to Jane Travis, Ian Smith and Ian de Villiers from Viva

Network based in Oxford, England for their expert assistance in helping us launch these much needed opportunities for training.

4. 20-foot container

I decided last night to call off pursuing sending a 20 foot container of Feed My Starving Children food from Minnesota to Manila because our team is very thinly spread and we lack the expertise required to do all the paperwork required in the States before a container is even shipped as well as the paperwork needed to avoid costly customs tax and storage fees when the container arrives here. This decision was *extremely* difficult to make because it gnaws on my gut when I think of all the malnourished kids and families we are surrounded by each and every day and how effective this food is in helping them regain health. The Lord must have another plan because kids, moms and churches still greatly desire this food. So when the Holy Spirit closes one door, He opens another and we will wait for Him to show us the way forward.

5. 2nd Mile ministries update

* Working Hands, ACTION's Discipleship/Vocational Training ministry for boys coming from hardship backgrounds, opens its 19th class next Monday and they are expecting 50 students in either auto mechanics, wood tech or computer repair. The average cost per week to feed, house and teach these growing young men is \$1500 so pray that the Lord will provide the needed funds to train young men in what it means to be a faithful follower of Christ with an employable skill.

* Honest Hands, our Life Skills Development Program for former street boys, will have 2 boot camps in May which are intended for recruiting 10 guys that will be selected to be in their next class which opens in early June.

* Mustard Seed, our Discipleship/Vocational Training program for young women from hardship backgrounds has been in session for a few weeks with 10 girls. Their weekly budget is around \$570.

* While I'm mentioning ministries, our evangelistic street children camp schedule is June 22-25, July 6-9, August 10-13 and each camp costs \$2500. We have in hand \$3700 so we are trusting the Lord for the balance of \$3800. Pray the Lord brings these funds in because camping continues to be a very effective way to reach kids with the Gospel and bring churches and organizations together in ministry.

Pray for all the missionaries and staff as they faithfully serve in their respective ministries as well as for the Lord's provision because we trust the Lord for all the funds needed for each ministry. Each person can clearly testify that the Lord has been faithful in providing all that is needed and will continue to do so--but sometimes His provision comes in the last minute, just before it's needed.

6. May 10 elections

May 10 the Philippines will have its national elections from the Presidency to the most grass roots elected official. Pray for peace, order and a smooth transition of leadership for this democratic country. For an interesting article about government leaders and street children, here is a link to a local newspaper:

<http://lifestyle.inquirer.net/sundaylifestyle/sundaylifestyle/view/20100418-264886/Remember-the-streetchildren>

7. Adam and Alei

Adam Hussey, one of our younger missionaries from the States, married Alei Tan, a sweet gal from Manila on April 22. These two have brought great joy to Mary Ann and me because of their walk with the Lord, in the way they courted each other, their wholehearted service and their wedding ceremony was honoring to God and their parents. I was one of their Ninongs (godparent) which is a life-long place of counsel and influence. Pray for Adam and Alei as they are learning to walk together in the Lord.

8. Erik and Michelle / Jacki and Lori

Friday evening, Erik and Michelle Anderson from Milwaukee, WI arrive and will serve with us for 9 days. Erik is from Grace Church Eden Prairie originally and served for several years with the worship team. Both Erik and Michelle are graduates of Northwestern College in Minnesota where our daughter Micah went to school. Pray for them as they are seeking the Lord as to what He wants to teach them during this trip and how they can serve Him wherever He leads.

On June 10, Jacki and Lori Rouleau will arrive to serve with us for 8 weeks. They are daughters of Mary Ann's sister Janna in Anoka, MN. They will have many various assignments while they are with us and we are looking forward to learning from them as we also seek to mentor them in their spiritual growth. They will serve at two camps, Mustard Seed, Shalom Birthing Clinic, feeding programs and street ministries. Pray that their support will come in and that God will prepare them for what He has planned for them.

9. Amos' article published in "The Journal of Chemical Physics"

On April 26 an article written by our son Amos and his Caltech advisor was published online. Amos gave us this explanation of what it is about (since we can only understand the acknowledgement section of the article), "In molecules, electrons want to get close to the nuclei, but need to stay away from the other electrons. Quantum chemistry is a search for arrangements that get the electrons as close as possible. This paper presents one way to do it, and is about how close I get to experiment." This is a great achievement and represents years of learning and hard work. Good work Amos!

10. Leadership transition

Our leadership team continues to work on the process of selecting our next field director, business manager and Carl Loewen who leads our Honest Hands ministry has decided to take Mary Ann's place as our Human Resources Coordinator. Pray for God's wisdom and continued unity on the team as we transition from one leadership team to another. As you know, transition is difficult but if we walk together under the Lordship of Christ, we can do this well.

11. Upcoming furlough

Mary Ann mentioned to me the other day in passing that in the last 10 years, we have had a total of 12 months of furlough. I was stunned! We have made many trips to the States, Canada and other countries but they were ministry trips so we are looking forward to at least a 6 month furlough based in Minnesota starting mid-December. We are both feeling the wear and tear of strenuous ministry but I want to quickly say the joy of the Lord continues to be our strength and we've never been happier.

A source of great encouragement to me in recent days has been Luke 4:18-19 which says, "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD." (NASB). These verses were given to me a few years ago by my father-in-law, John Hartzell as an encouragement to my life's work. I thank God when work is tough and becomes a grind the Word of God is a spring of fresh, cold water and inspiration in a very hot and dry land.

Sincerely in Christ, your friend and brother,

Jeff

"Yes, LORD, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts."
--Is 26:8 NIV

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