



Making a Difference for Eternity

May-June 2011

Aboard the ***Boat of Hope*** with 10 tons of supplies for flood victims in Peru.

See story page 5



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Go Forward for Heaven in 2011

The Gospel to all the World



Ed MacKenzie

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Colossians 1:27

Dear MPI Supporters,

Ruth and I experienced a wonderful trip to the Southern Philippines during April. Our evangelism included our meetings in the Attis Street Church in General Santos City, in addition to five satellite meetings that were being conducted by local pastors in the surrounding area. This trip brought us full circle, since it was twelve years previous that we were involved with our first series of meetings, with our pastor in this same venue.

With much prayer and commitment on the part of everyone involved, The Lord blessed with nearly 400 baptisms. And this was on the heels of fifteen ShareHim series of Meetings that witnessed a total of about 1,100 baptisms. The people in the Southern Philippines are very open to the gospel. We visited two new Churches that have been organized by two families that were baptized in our meetings just two years previous.

Dreamland, one of the new Churches, already has seventy to eighty members with forty of those having just been baptized as a result of the recent ShareHim Meetings. It is a real inspiration to see what God can do when we work together with Him in ministry and service for others.

Of special significance; we had made special appeals for the youth to make a commitment to Christ in baptism. On the morning of the planned baptism, we asked the youth who were twenty years of age or younger and who were to be baptized to come to the front of the venue. It was an inspiration to witness that about two-thirds of those who were to be baptized were young people. Many of the local Church youth in the Philippines are very active in ministry; either through music, Bible studies and/or social events.

We wish to personally thank the Southern Mindanao Mission for their team work; the office staff, pastoral staff, local Church leadership, musical groups, and all of the twenty-two or so Lay Workers who really did a wonderful job. The meetings were well supported and well attended. In the afternoon on the day of the mass baptism there were 118 individuals who graduated, in a special program, from the local Bible school. Many of these had been baptized on this day. God is good all of the time! All of the time, God is good!

In His Service, Ed MacKenzie

The MacKenzie's travel internationally, conducting Lay Evangelism. Ed oversees the accounting system at La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital. Ruth helps in the office and sews for Belmopan Adventist Orphanage in her spare time. Being avid birdwatchers, the MacKenzie's especially enjoy Belize.

From Cock-Pit to Church Builder

By Ruth MacKenzie

In 2009 we (the MacKenzies) held an evangelism campaign in the Lote Sports Stadium near General Santos City, Mindanao, Philippines. Among those baptized was Mr. & Mrs. Dominador Estrera. They owned a sizable cock fighting business. As Christians, they didn't feel it was the right business to be in, so they sold it.

We were again in the General Santos City area in April of 2011 holding another evangelism campaign. While there we visited 10 or 12 little churches that wanted help with their church building. The Estreras wanted us to see their church. They welcomed us and had a nice meal prepared for us. They also took us on a tour to the big tuna fish port. While there, our long-time friend Tessie Aspe interviewed Mr. Estrera (Doming).

Tessie: What difference can you see between your life today from your life before becoming an Adventist?

Doming: There is a great difference. My life before was so stressful and wasteful. I spent a lot of my time out of my house and away from my family. From my work I would go out with friends drinking the night away and come home drunk. I gambled and lost most of the time. I owned a cock-pit where gamblers come to bet on week-ends and I got a big profit. This way I found and got into lots of troubles, too.

But now, since I found Jesus I have peace in my heart. I feel happy and spend most of my time with my family. We have regular worship at home and attend church together. That is why I am building a church right there beside



Estrera family; Mr. & Mrs. Estrera are standing at the right of Ed & Ruth

my house so my family and I can worship together. This I am able to do with the money I got after selling my cock-pit.

I am thankful to GOD and for the *All For Jesus* Crusade. The Lord is blessing me more bountifully with wealth plus true happiness I've never had before.

Tessie: Thank you brother Dominador. ♦

Huichol Project: Christian Media Rescues Crumbling Marriage

By Fred Adams

Pastor Cirilo, I need to speak with you!" The voice came from a woman he did not recognize as he walked down a street in the town of Puente. "My name is Etelvina, and I want to personally thank you for saving my marriage!" she continued. "I've been watching your Christian TV broadcasts on Channel 7, and one program shared clear Bible principles on how to rescue a crumbling marriage. At the time I held divorce papers in my hands after my husband handed them to me and stormed away angrily to his mother's home.

"As I watched this program, I knew that divorce was not the answer—the Bible has a better way! I knew that if my husband Armando could see this program, God could reconcile our marriage. But he had no interest in religious TV.

"I prayed that God would intervene. And He did! My husband returned from his mother's house, where he'd been captivated by a TV program she was watching—the very same one I was watching at home on Channel 7!" With tears he asked my forgiveness, tore up the divorce papers and told me things would change for the better. This happened a year ago, and just now I saw you and *had* to thank you! Our marriage has improved, our children are happy and we are all blessed by watching your Christian TV station!"

The story continues to unfold as Pastor Cirilo invited Etelvina to bring her family to church. And he expresses profuse gratefulness to donors who support Christian media in towns and villages of the Sierra Huichol in Mexico.

Note: MPI has teamed up with 3ABN Latino and Amistad Internacional to reach people for Christ through Christian broadcasting. ♦



Pastor Cirilo (left) with family positively influenced by Christian media outreach.

Peru Project: 10 Tons of Help!

Wednesday night, March 23rd, a team of valiant missionary minded men boarded the “Boat of Hope”, where we spent the night. We left Thursday morning at 4 a.m. from Pucallpa with almost 10 tons of supplies that were to be given out to our brethren who were victims of this winter’s fierce flooding.



Our Team, L to R: Sergio, Pr. Aholiab, Albin, Miqueas, Carlos (taking picture)

This assistance comes from our kind-hearted brethren from the **South Peru Union** and **ADRA**. One hundred and ten food/water ration packages were destined for church members in Peru Projects’ zone along the upper and lower Ucayali River.

We spent three days traveling the fierce waters of the Ucayali to deliver these provisions. It was really gratifying to see the faces of our brethren who received this small help. All of them are in uncertainty as to how they will survive these subsequent months after their fields have been devastated by the flooding. ♦



Beginning Distribution from the Boat of Hope.



They came in their canoes and on foot to receive their rations.



Peru Project: Marañón River visit

By Pastor Aholiab

Early

Sabbath morning we began our preparations for departure to the Marañón River. At 7:30 am the engine of our Lake Renegade 250 was fired up and at 7:40 am we were climbing high into the sky until we reached an altitude of 5500 feet. The trip was quiet because the skies were clear, which is rare at this time of year (the rainy season); normally almost every day is cloudy and rainy.



*Sandra and Pr. Aholiab,
Amy and Chris Borchering*

After two and a half hours we arrived in the community of San Jose de Parinari, on the Marañón River. The work here began in 2010.

The small group of believers who accepted God's call and committed their lives to Him in October last year were very dedicated and put forth the effort to get the materials for the roof of their church. Peru Projects supplied the corrugated metal sheeting, and under the direction of the missionary who worked there last year, brother Antonio Zatalaya, in January 2011 they began to construct the frame and put the roof on. On this visit we had the pleasure of seeing the



*Brethren of San
Jose de Parinari*



Santa Rita de Castilla

completed roof. We had Sabbath School and then worship where the Bible reminded us of the precious promise that our wonderful Jesus Christ will soon return in the clouds with great glory and bring us to His holy city, Jerusalem.

After fellowshipping with the brethren in Parinari, we began the trip to Santa Rita de Castilla. There David Saboya,

the missionary appointed in 2011 to attend the four fledgling churches we have on that river, was waiting for us with the group of believers there. They also had a worship service to praise God, and after strengthening ourselves with His Word we were served a delicious lunch that the believers had so graciously prepared for us.

Afterward we flew to Leoncio Prado to be with the brethren there for the parting of the Sabbath. We were very happy to find them meeting together in their recently constructed church. With much effort they had been able to build the frame and put on the thatched roof and Peru Projects had helped them to get the boards for the walls.



With the support and direction of the missionary who was there last year, Elvio Manuyama, in January 2011 they were able to complete a beautiful temple for the praise and honor of our God. Here we spent the night, but before going to sleep we set up a television outside the church and watched a video about the Sabbath. Many people came to watch and at the

end we shared a message and then we went to bed.

Early Sunday morning we met in the church for worship, then had breakfast, a delicious "pango" (boiled fish cooked with banana). Saying goodbye to the brethren, we began the return trip to our base in Pucallpa.

I really thank the Lord very much for this trip; it was a blessing to our brethren on the Marañón River and for us also.



The work here faces many challenges this year; we ask that you join us in praying that God would provide the financial means to continue preaching the gospel in this area of the Peruvian Amazon. *Pr. Aholiab* ♦

A Prodigal Daughter Returns

By Pastor Joel Gomez

Perla grew up attending church in the mountains of Oaxaca, Mexico. But as a teenager, she mixed with the wrong crowd, ended up pregnant, and had a baby boy. She left him with the father and fled to the U.S., hoping to get rich. She totally abandoned God and lived only for herself.

Five years later Perla returned to her hometown in Mexico, still keeping God at a distance. Her former boyfriend left their son with Perla, as he was already involved with another woman.

Pastor Joel invited her to come to church, but she made it clear she had no interest in doing so. Perla tried to fill her empty life by partying and wild living.

One Sabbath morning her son dressed in his nice clothes and asked his mom to go to church with him. She declined, and he went alone. Suddenly memories of her happy childhood flooded her mind, and almost unaware of what she was doing, Perla removed her jewelry, put on a nice dress and hurried to church. The pastor preached about the Children of Israel, so close to the Promised Land, yet unable to enter because they rebelled against God.

After the service, Perla expressed her desire to give her heart and life to Jesus – she was tired of running away! Perla and her young son are now actively involved in reaching others for Jesus, grateful to have a loving Heavenly Father who welcomes repentant sinners back home. ♦

Joel Gomez pastors in remote regions of the Oaxaca mountains, and thanks to the MPI Worthy Student Aid, hopes to begin his 4th year of Theology this fall.

Tragedy at Montemorelos

Our hearts and prayers go out to the family, friends, students and staff at Montemorelos University upon the attempted kidnapping and killing of student Yoselin Perez Ramirez. Ms Ramirez was a communication major, baptized last November.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. Psalm 116:15



La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital, in Belize, is again looking for two doctors:

a missionary-minded Surgeon and an Internist.

If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact the Hospital's Administrator, Mr. Grant McPherson at: mcperson_grant@hotmail.com

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; but he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man accordingly as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 2 Cor 9:6,7

A Future Gift is a Planned Gift

Does your **present** financial situation seem to prevent you from supporting Mission Projects, Inc. this year? We have some good news; you can still support your favorite project through a **future** gift. Helping you make plans for a future gift is the essence of our Planned Giving Department. Let us show you how easily this can be done through one or more of the following methods:

- Name Mission Projects, Inc. as a beneficiary of your IRA or 401 (k) retirement plan
- Designate us as a dollar amount or percentage beneficiary of your will or revocable living trust
- Name Mission Projects, Inc. as a beneficiary of your investment/brokerage account or life insurance policies
- Transfer valuables such as stamp, coin or antique collections to us through a simple change to your documents

Perhaps you need more income now or for your anticipated retirement. We even offer **future** gift options that will pay you a generous, fixed income **now** for as long as you live, provide immediate income tax relief, and ultimately provide funds for Mission Projects, Inc.

To learn more, contact our Planned Giving department today at 866-356-5595.

Worthy Student Aid: Reaching the Lost

By *Liliana Serna Lopez*

Dear Friends,

I am a student of the Medical Laboratory Scientists Program of Montemorelos University.

By this letter, I would like to express my gratefulness for the generous financial help I've received from you. Thanks to this help, I was able to enroll this semester. For me, being here has been a great blessing because I've seen the hand of God supporting me in everything I do.

During Christmas vacation (December, 2010 – January 2011) we went out colporteuring like usual. But our main goal was not selling books, it was preaching the Gospel. Every day as we left our place, we prayed asking for the opportunity to deliver a blessing to those we reached, and we kept the idea in our minds that “we would reach for the lost souls, and God would take care of our needs to continue studying.” This idea was kept in our minds as we visited every house.



There were times in which we felt fear because the house of some persons showed they worshiped the “Saint Death” but we still offered Bible studies. Some responded that they could not leave their traditional religious practices, but would let their kids take the Bible courses. Others accepted the studies because they felt they couldn't go on with their lives, with their bad habits and problems, and with their lack of will to change. Seeing their great need became our motivation to continue visiting and talking about the love of God.

There were days in which the cold was hard to face, but we were strengthened by the Lord every day to go on with our labor and continue sharing His love with the people. I have learned that God will provide for my needs when I go forward in humility, recognizing that I can do nothing on my own.

Sincerely, *Liliana Serna Lopez*



Memorial Gifts

At Rest

Johnson, Gladys

By Mark & Tammy Harris

Wallace, Timothy Earl

By Mary & Raymond Wallace

Summerton, James & Rose

By Veryl & Dollie Drury

Lind, Andrew

By Edith Lind



Since there are many students needing assistance, your Student Aid contributions are placed in a General Fund and distributed uniformly among those with the greatest need and potential. *Thank you!*

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL OCCASION GIVING

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In behalf of: _____

Anniversary Baptism Birthday At Rest _____

Please send card to person below:

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to: M.P.I. ♦ P.O. Box 504, College Place, WA 99324
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Please send me additional memorial forms (Number) _____

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Go Forward for Heaven in 2011

Mission Projects, Incorporated (MPI) is a supporting organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church, dedicated to spreading the Gospel by way of medical, educational, and evangelistic endeavors. MPI works in complete harmony with local Conferences and Missions, does not accept tithes, and is a member of Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) and Outpost Centers International (OCI).

YES—COUNT ME IN!

Please return this card with your tax-deductible donation to:

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Indicate amount donated to each fund

\$ _____ La Loma Luz Hospital (Belize)	\$ _____ Church Building Projects
\$ _____ Bibles \$ _____ Literature	\$ _____ Church Roofs
\$ _____ Worthy Student Fund	\$ _____ Use where most needed
\$ _____ Lay Workers	\$ _____ Other

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