



Foreign Ministries Committee

Matthew 28:18-20

Newsletter - January 2014

Philippines

The Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS) will send Pastors Michael Voytek and Gil Baloy to the Philippines from January 27 to February 14, 2014. Our last visit took place in January 2012. We hope to spend time with the brethren of the United Covenant Reformed Church in the Philippines (UCRCP) for fellowship, edification, encouragement and counseling. In addition, we are excited to meet brothers from two different Western churches who have a missionary passion to share the wealth of their Reformed heritage with the Filipino people. They are the Free Reformed Church of Baldivis, Western Australia, and the Canadian and American Reformed Church of Hamilton, Ontario.

This time our main purpose will be to participate in the relief effort to Christians devastated by the recent Typhoon Yolanda in the Visayan (Central) Islands. Please see map. Over 10,000 casualties resulted with many more injured and over 650,000 made homeless! We want to be able to share the love gifts of our churches in a wise and effective way. The RCUS has already sent financial assistance to the UCRCP for church and family members living in those storm-affected areas. [A \$1,500 donation from RCUS churches.] When we get to Manila, we will "tag along" with Pastor Edmund Delos Reyes and the mission team made up of other pastors and members of his congregation. The church's name is "God is Faithful Grace Community Church" located in Malolos, Bulacan, on the island of Luzon. Also, a representative of the UCRCP should be joining us.

Samar Relief Mission and Seminar

November 21, 2013

Greetings in the name of the Lord! Thank you for considering us as part of "God's Vessel" to help those who are affected by Typhoon Yolanda in Samar. I am so happy that the churches in the U.S. are taking the initiative to find ways to help with this ordeal. We already have a team sent to Guiaun, Samar, the farthest place in Samar. It is one of the most devastated places. It is located with the Pacific Ocean to the east, and is surrounded by seas. There are churches there that have asked for help, and that is the reason we are obligated to go. I was not able to go (this time). The members and other friends helped to finance this trip, as well as pay for the food and clothing that they brought. We have three pastors on that mission trip, Pastor Chel, Pastor Harry and Pastor Angel, all from our church here, two of whom are presently assigned in Fairview and Rizal doing church planting. All of them are Reformed in theology and in life...

November 28, 2013

The mission team was in Allen, Samar, last night. And another thing happened: the van's clutch got stuck.... I sent them a message and am still waiting for a reply. I hope they make it home safely. Please pray for...
December 8 for a big prayer event for Samar and

The email excerpts below provide a running account of two relief trips so far: the initial trip in November just after the typhoon hit *without* Pastor Reyes; and the second and most recent trip *with* the Pastor, which left the first week of the New Year. Edmund assures me that his team should be able to make a third trip by the time of our arrival. You will notice that this brother firmly believes in giving the gospel along with providing benevolent aid! *"It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."* (Matthew 4:4) We plan to bring plenty of tracts with us. (See the "Million Piso Bill" tract in sidebar.)

We thank the Lord for those churches and individuals who have contributed to the needs of the suffering Christians in Central Philippines. It is not too late for others to give toward this worthy cause. We will be working with at least two Reformed churches on this trip who we hope will continue to reach out with relief assistance when we return home. Thank you.

May God grant His tender mercies to us as we travel, and above all to the recipients of our assistance.

In Christ,
Pastors Michael Voytek and Gil Baloy



Leyte, which will be attended hopefully by thousands. I will give a message about "Calamity" and, of course, give the Gospel message... "Work while it is day for the night is coming when no man can work..."

December 30, 2013

We are so excited to see you in January. We are looking forward to that. As far as the money you sent, I did not see it yet. I will check that today. How much is that, Ptr. Gil? [A donation of \$500 from RCUS churches.] We are leaving this January 5 for the 2nd distribution in Samar, and we will also conduct a [Gospel] seminar there. Thank you so much for your assistance, also that of our church in San Diego, and for God's graciousness in supporting our endeavors...

January 5, 2014

We'll be leaving today for Samar Relief and Seminar Mission as a follow-up to the first trip. Please do pray for us, as I have a cough and do not feel that well. But I need to go. Attach here is a simple outline of the Seminar.

God bless,
Pastor Edmund Delos Reyes

Prayer Requests

1. Pray for God's safe traveling mercies for Rev. Gil Baloy & Rev. Michael Voytek.
2. Pray that the Lord will give them wisdom on how best to help with the relief effort and be sovereignly used to open a door for the Gospel.
3. Give thanks for the support that has been raised and pray that this work will continue to be supported.
4. Pray that God would continue to strengthen the UCRCP and that His word through them would continue to bear fruit.
5. Pray for Rev. Dennis Roe and His wife Julie as they complete their time in Kenya.
6. Pray that God would strengthen Rev. Roe as he has had some difficulties in Kenya including with needing emergency dental work.
7. Give thanks that the Lord has opened the door for Rev. Eric Kayayan to find a house in France. Pray for the support he needs both for the move and the purchase of the home as the value of the S.A.Rand has been dropping.

John Calvin Institutes 3.23.14

"For as we know not who belongs to the number of the predestined or who does not belong, we ought to be so minded as to wish that all men be saved."

